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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XI.—NO. 15. WEEKLY EDITION. FEBRUARY 21, 1874.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 12, 1874.

SENATE.

The Singerly Printing bill occasioned considerable debate. The total amount to be allowed under the bill was $31,000.

The Judiciary Apportionment bill was then taken up, when Mr. Wallace offered several amendments. The debate waxed warm, with Mr. Strang on the other side. Adjourned till to-morrow.

HOUSE.

The bill on entailments occupied the morning hour. Mr. Christy opposed and Mr. Little favored the bill, which was passed to second reading.

The Judicial Salary bill was called up. Mr. Newmyer moved to enforce his ten minute rule for speeches.

Mr. Webb opposed the bill.

At the afternoon session one amendment after another was voted on, and the entire afternoon was spent on it, Messrs. McCormick, Newmyer and Christy supporting, and Messrs. Webb, Wolfe and Ramey opposing it.

The bill got into such a mix that a motion was made to recommit it to the General Judiciary Committee.

Not agreed to.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 13, 1874.

SENATE.

The bill for the relief of the State Printer failed by sixteen to ten.

HOUSE.

Mr. Hays reported Senate bill No. 33, "Act authorizing change of venue in criminal cases," with a negative recommendation, for the reason that the House bill on the same subject is much more complete.

Mr. Christy reported favorably from the General Judiciary Committee the "Act to provide for the lawful increase of the indebtedness of any county, city, borough, township, school district or other municipality or incorporated district," in accordance with the provisions of the new Constitution.

Mr. Newmyer introduced a carefully prepared bill, providing for the election of a Lieutenant Governor, defining the duties and fixing the salary at $5,000; also one appropriating $10 000 to the "Sheltering Arms" of Allegheny county, and for the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

The Governor has signed the Printing bill of Mr. Brockway.

Representative McCreery, of Venango, desires it to be understood that the Oil bill he has introduced is the identical measure which was approved by the producers at Franklin, and not the one sent down by interested parties to increase the inspection fees. His bill authorizes the Courts to appoint the inspectors.

Mr. McCreery's bill providing for a geological survey of the State, still hangs in the committee. It is intended, he asserts, to be a complete and comprehensive examination of all that is at present known in regard to the mineral resources of the State, and will fill an important place in scientific literature upon that subject.

Nearly all the members left for their homes on the afternoon train.

Representative Hays, of Allegheny, has been complimented highly for his little speech on the Usury bill.

Among the amendments tacked on to the Judicial Salary bill yesterday, was one reducing Judge Pearson's salary to $5,000. The Philadelphia county members remonstrated vigorously against this.

Mr. Robert C. Schmertz is here trying to pass the new Insurance bill, against which a remonstrance was presented by Senator Graham. He says the bill is not understood; that its provisions are fair and its requirements just. Montgomery Foster, the Insurance Commissioner, says he drew the bill after a careful study of the whole matter and a diligent comprehension of the various Insurance laws of other States.

The bill introduced by Senator Yerkes, of Bucks, does not provide for the repeal of the Jury Commissioner act, but merely names the manner of filling the wheel when the array is quashed.

Senator Andrew H. Dill, of Union, is sick. He objects to Mr. Wallace's Corporation bill, because it allows any one to bridge the Delaware.

Speaker McCormick says he will oppose the law of entailments when it comes up on third reading.

[The following letter from our Harrisburg correspondent was crowded out yesterday morning. Although a day behind time, it is of sufficient interest to lay before our readers.—Ed. Com.]

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 10, 1874.

The House met at ten o'clock this morning, and sat for three hours; but beyond spending the additional hour in babble, the increase in time spent did not result in any increase of work. The whole time was devoted to a discussion of a bill to repeal the Usury laws. The discussion was long and tedious, but resulted in no result. The hour of adjournment arrived in the midst of it, and the bill went over. Several incidental votes taken on it, however, show a pretty evenly divided House. Mr. Little moved, in Committee of the Whole, that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again. This he did, as he said, in the hope of putting the bill over for future consideration, and the vote on it was 33 to 32; but on giving the committee leave to sit again, the vote on first count was 36 to 34, whereupon the yeas and nays were called, and resulted—yeas 36, nays 41. This had the effect to bring the bill before the House on first reading, and the remainder of the time was spent in discussing it. The negative vote, as given above, is hostile to the bill as it stands, and indicates that the House is against it. The bill authorizes contracts to loan and borrow money to be made in writing to the limit of ten per cent. interest, the regular legal interest to remain. It is the desire of the opponents of the bill allege that to authorize interest at ten per cent. would practically establish that as the legal rate, and the friends of the bill allege that it is the present usury law. Instance that the opposition comes mainly from those interested in national banks, who profit by an uncertain rate of interest. My opinion is that the bill will not pass the House in its present shape.

The Senate had a short session, but passed all the bills it had ready for action. The supplement to the Election law, the bill to regulate the change of venue in criminal cases, and the House bill to provide for filling vacancies in the offices of Prothonotary, Clerk of the Courts, &c., were severally passed finally. Mr. Ermentrout's bill to prevent trespassing on inclosed and improved lands by hunters was defeated; yeas 10, nays 10. The Judicial Apportionment bill was postponed for the present, and so was the bill to fix the time for the commencement of the terms of ward, borough and township officers.

Mr. Wallace's bill to provide for the incorporation of certain private corporations," has been printed, but has not yet been acted on, it enacts as follows:

Private corporations may be formed by the voluntary association of five or more persons with powers,

First, to have limited or perpetual succession.

Second, to maintain and carry on judicial proceedings.

Third, to make and use a common seal.

Fourth, to hold such real and personal estate as the purposes of the organization require.

Fifth, to appoint and remove its own officers.

Sixth, to frame its own by-laws; and

Seventh, to enter into all obligations necessary to the transaction of its affairs.

Private corporations are divided into two classes. The first class embraces religious, benevolent, educational, literary, agricultural, horticultural, sporting, cemetery, beneficial and fire companies, each of which may hold real estate yielding not more than $20,000 annually.

The second class embraces insurance companies of all kinds, road, bridge, telegraph, ferry, water, gas, printing, shipbuilding, hotel, building and loan, mechanical, mining and manufacturing companies.

The charter of an intended corporation must be subscribed by five or more persons, and shall contain the name of the corporation, its purpose, its locality, the term of its existence, the number and names of directors, and the amount of capital stock. Notice is to be given in at least one paper of the application for charters, of which proof is to be made, and the charter acknowledged before the Recorder, and upon presentation to a law judge of the proper county, if found to be within the purposes named in the *first* class, the judge shall approve the charter and it shall then be recorded.

Applications for charters of corporations in the *second* class shall, in addition to the foregoing, set forth that ten per cent. of the capital stock has been paid in cash to the treasurer of the corporation, and shall then be submitted to a law judge of the proper county, who shall examine it, and if in the proper form, shall indorse the facts and approval thereon. It shall then be sent to the Governor, and if he approve it on examination, shall direct letters patent to issue in the usual form. The charter is to be then recorded in the Secretary of Commonwealth's office, and the Auditor General apprised of its contents. Charters of this class are limited to twenty years.

The business of all corporations shall be managed by a President, Secretary, Treasurer, Clerk, Treasurer, &c., who shall be chosen annually by the stockholders. The number of directors shall not be less than three, and the treasurer shall give bond in such sums as shall be required.

The bill then goes on to provide minutely how shares of stock shall be issued, how elections shall be held, how vacancies shall be filled, how votes may be cast under the cumulative system, and limits the stock in each corporation to a million of dollars. Stock in them is declared to be personal property, transferable when fully paid and forfeitable for non-payment of indebtedness therein. All such corporations may borrow money and secure their indebtedness by bonds with or without coupons, and by mortgages to an amount not exceeding half their capital stock, at a rate of interest not exceeding 7 per cent. The stockholders are held individually liable to the amount of their stock for the debts of the corporation, as is the case in all corporations now existing. Preferred stock may be issued and dividends paid thereon out of the net earnings only.

Every corporation created under this act may take such real and personal estate, mineral rights and other property as may be necessary for its purposes, and issue stock in payment, which shall be treated as full paid stock. All fictitious increase of stock or indebtedness is declared void, and all corporations may provide for the issue of *deferred stock*—a new idea—in payment of real and personal estate or mineral rights, and said stock may be made to await payment of dividends until five per cent. has been paid out of the net earnings upon the other full paid stock.

The capital stock of corporations may be increased, but only for money, labor done, or property actually received, and upon a vote of the stockholders, due notice of the increase, if ordered, being given to the Auditor General. The capital stock may also be reduced by a vote of the stockholders.

The bill then proceeds to point out what the charters of live stock and accident insurance companies, road companies, ferry and bridge companies, and telegraph companies, incorporating therein the present regulations for such companies. Also, for water, water and gas, hotel, building and loan, and manufacturing companies, particularly iron and steel companies, and mining and quarrying companies. These details are very full, but are mainly conformable to the present laws on these subjects.

Provision is made for taxation on their capital stock, franchises, &c., as at present.

The bill covers fifty-four pages, and is full and complete in its provisions. It will not pass hurriedly, and there is a general desire that those interested should examine it, and suggest whatever alterations may be deemed advisable. Some general bill of the kind must be passed, and now is the time to speak out, and suggest what changes, if any, are wanted.

SPECIAL.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 13, 1874.

The two Houses have, to-day, jointly agreed to adjourn over to Thursday next, so as to give every one a chance to go home to attend the spring elections; and, as I write, the members are scattering themselves in every possible direction. The excitement in Philadelphia over its election has been so great that it has been very difficult all this week to keep the members from that city here. The necessity for an amendment to the Election law alone served to keep them here so long.

This supplement to the Election law, as it was originally introduced, contained but one clause, providing that the assessors provided for in the 14th section of the original act should be Assessors for registration purposes only. This was amended in the Senate by adding a proviso that the provision should apply only to those districts divided into two or more election precincts; and Mr. Rutan had two new sections added, one requiring returns of ward, borough and township elections to be made to the Clerk of the Quarter Sessions, instead of to the Prothonotary, and the other substituting the Prothonotary in place of the County Commissioners in the Board of Return Judges when the court cannot sit as such board. In this shape the bill went to the House, on Wednesday last, when it was read a first time.

On Thursday the bill came up on second reading, when the third section, substituting the Prothonotary for the County Commissioners, as above, was struck out, and the following inserted in its stead:

In all elections hereafter, the certificate of naturalization, if genuine, shall be conclusive evidence of the facts mentioned therein; and when the person offering to vote establishes the right on the payment of tax, the receipt for such tax, if signed by the proper officer, shall be the evidence thereof, if such person does not produce such receipt. The payment of the tax may be proved by the oath of such person, or other evidence stating when, where, and to whom such tax was paid.

On Friday, the bill passed third reading and was sent to the Senate for concurrence in the amendments. There does not appear to have been any party calling on the division, but the vote in the Senate on concurrence was purely a party one, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson (Allegheny), Cooper, Cutler, Davis, Fitch, Graham, Hellman, Humphreys, Lamon (Philadelphia), Lemon (Blair), McKinley, Maclay, Rutan, Warfel, White and Strang, Speaker—17.

Nays—Messrs. Bechtel, Chalfant, Collins, Ermentrout, McSherry, Playford, Rowland, Wallace, Waream and Yerkes—10.

The bill has gone to the Governor, and will doubtless be signed before this reaches you.

The Senate bill to compensate the newspapers publishing the new Constitution, was amended in the House by striking out the section authorizing the payment of those papers receiving orders from the Secretary of the Commonwealth so to do, and the latter proviso of the bill as it has been enacted for the present, to enable the House to gather some information in the premises. The first section of the bill, as it passed the Senate, empowered the Secretary of the Commonwealth to fix an equitable price for the publication, and directed the Auditor General to pay on that basis. The House deemed this a proper proposed course, and has passed the following resolution on the subject:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to report to the House, at their earliest convenience, the prices which will fairly remunerate the publishers who printed and published the Constitution by direction of the Secretary of the Commonwealth; and that the vote thereon on the 16th of December last, on the following scales of circulation, stating the prices for the first and each subsequent issue daily and weekly separately, be with:

1. Papers having less than 500 circulation.
2. Papers more than 500 and less than 750.
3. Papers more than 750 and less than 1,000.
4. Papers more than 1,000 and less than 1,500.
5. Papers more than 1,500 and less than 2,000.
6. Papers having more than 2,000, for each 1,000 additional.

What the House proposes to do when this information is obtained I would be loth to say, but predict; but, until it acts, the publishers must wait patiently for their pay.

My friend Singerly came to grief with his bill, on Thursday, to authorize a settlement of his account, as State Printer, the State allowing him payment for the printed matter destroyed in the fire. The amount in question is $60,000. Mr. White opposed it strongly, and the bill fell for want of the constitutional majority (17), as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson (Allegheny), Chalfant, Cooper, Davis, Dill, Graham, Humphreys, Lamon (Philadelphia), Lemon (Blair), McSherry, Maclay, Rutan, Wallace and Strang, Speaker—16.

Nays—Messrs. Bechtel, Collins, Ermentrout, Fitch, McKinley, Playford, Rowland, Waream, Warfel, White and Yerkes—12.

Less than a majority of all the Senators having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the negative and the bill fell.

A reconsideration is not improbable.

The majority of the Judiciary committee in the Senate on Thursday presented a report in reference to the question of the contest of the seats of A. H. Dill, of the Seventeenth district, and John Lamon, of Philadelphia. The report states that the Constitution conflicting with the law of 1839, providing for the decision of contested cases, a committee must be appointed by the Senate to examine petitions and make report to the Senate, but that report is not final.

Mr. Playford presented a minority report, which claims that the Senate has no power to act on the subject. No action was taken on the matter, and the probability is that nothing further will be done.

The House Judicial Apportionment bill hangs fire on second reading. Mr. Wallace contends that counties having more than 40,000 inhabitants are entitled to a judge, and that contiguous counties may also be annexed to them when they can be formed into separate districts by themselves. He therefore moved to take Perry from Cumberland, and Juniata from Northumberland, and make a Forty-first district of Perry and Juniata.

Mr. Rutan combatted this view in a conclusive speech, which I send you for publication, and in order to test the sense of the Senate on the subject, he moved to amend the amendment by striking off Forest from Venango. A long debate followed, occupying both morning and afternoon sessions on Wednesday, and finally a vote was taken on Rutan's amendment, and it was lost, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Albright, Bechtel, Collins, Ermentrout, Humphreys, McSherry, Rowland, Wallace and Waream—9.

Nays—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson (Allegheny), Chalfant, Cooper, Cutler, Dill, Fitch, Graham, Lemon, Lamon, McKinley, Maclay, Playford, Rutan, Warfel, Weakley, White, Yerkes and Strang, Speaker—19.

This is considered decisive of the question, and will defeat Mr. Wallace's amendment, if adhered to, when the bill comes up again.

There is a hidden fact or two, in this connection, that it may be as well to unearth. Cumberland and Perry are *now* a judicial district. In 1871, Judge Junkin, Republican, was chosen Judge, and his term continues until 1881. If the district is not changed, the Democratic lawyers of Cumberland have no outlet for their ambition; and if Perry is set off with Juniata, then Cumberland will have a judge to elect next fall. And so, the milk in *that* coconaut is fully accounted for.

[NOTE.—Your telegraphic report states that Wallace and Strang had a bitter fight over the amendment. No fight of the kind took place.]

The House has had before it for several days a bill relative to entailments. It involves a dry legal discussion, but your Representative, Mr. McCormick, seems hooked on it, and goes into it with a will. I would like to have an estate entailed on me, but I will not entail this discussion on your readers.

The Salary bill has got through second reading in the House, and the salaries have not been increased *much*, so far. Mr. Orvis lugged in an opinion of the Attorney General, that the Legislature could not reduce the salaries of Judges in Philadelphia and Allegheny below what they are now, *including* the gratuities paid them by the city of Philadelphia and county of Allegheny; but the House seemed to think it had as good a right to its constitutional opinion as the Attorney General, and refused to give up its judgment to his.

Mr. Mitchell moved to make the salaries in Philadelphia, Allegheny and Dauphin $5,000, and $4,000 elsewhere. Yeas—41 to 45—Wainwright voting aye, and all your other representatives no.

Mr. Ramey then moved to make the salaries of Supreme Judges $7,000 instead of $8,000 and $9,000, as in the original bill. Carried, 55 to 36—Gerwig voting aye, and all the rest no.

Mr. Ramey further moved to fix the Allegheny and Philadelphia salaries at $5,000 instead of $7,000. Agreed to, 50 to 42—all your men voting no.

Mr. Foster then moved to fix the salaries of the other judges at $4,500, which was agreed to, and the bill in that shape passed second reading.

Threats have been thrown out that, if the bill passes in this shape the Governor will veto it, on the ground of its unconstitutionality, as indicated in the Attorney General's opinion to Mr. Orvis; but I have no idea that the Governor will do any such thing.

The pressure here, from the judges and their friends, in favor of increased salaries, is something fearful, and I am sorry to see that the Allegheny delegation has yielded to it. They will find it harder to settle with the people than with the bench. They are not likely, I trust, to be brought under judicial scrutiny; but they *must* answer to the people.

SPECIAL.

TEMPERANCE.

Progress of the Woman's War—The Sphere of Operations Widening—But Little Opposition to the Crusaders.

Columbus.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

COLUMBUS, February 14.—The woman's whisky war continues to spread rapidly. At Pomeroy, on the Ohio river, the saloon keepers held a mass meeting to-night and have resolved to close their doors against the women, and then if they obstruct the sidewalks they say they will have the law enforced. All these threats have no effect. They still go on the rounds and say they will never give up. Dio Lewis lectures at Mt. Vernon to-night, and here on Monday night. The ladies will organize here to-morrow for the work.

CINCINNATI, February 15.—Specials to the *Gazette* from various parts of Southwestern Ohio report the closing of eighty out of a hundred and forty places where liquor was sold since the beginning of the temperance movement. Reports come from fourteen towns and villages. Logan, Leesburg, New Vienna, Washington and Blanchester have a complete victory. Muncie, Indiana, reports eight out of eleven places closed. The average time of the movement in these places is less than two weeks.

Logan, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LOGAN, O., February 14, 1874.

The Women's League to-day succeeded in obtaining the names of Christ. Roller and J. Keller, heretofore extensive liquor dealers, to the dealer's pledge.

Ripley, Ohio.

RIPLEY, O., February 14.—The crusaders are still busy. One or two who were pledged to sell no more have undertaken to renew their old business quietly. The ladies have renewed their efforts with these men. Suburban saloons are now receiving the most attention, as vigilant eye is kept on all who have surrendered. A grand meeting to-night.

Covington, Ky.

CINCINNATI, February 14.—One hundred and fifty postal cards were mailed through the Covington, Ky., postoffice to-day, to saloon keepers, which read as follows:

Dear Sir: You are requested and entreated to abandon the sale of intoxicating liquors for your own welfare and that of humanity. Remember that it is degrading to yourself, and spreads woe and poverty among us. If not, we will unite our prayers and visit you and every saloon in a body, fervently pleading until our object is attained.

[Signed.]

THE LADIES' COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

It is reported that the Covington ladies will commence picketing next Monday. Forty-one sale of liquors is licensed in Covington by city and State.

Jeffersonville, Ind.

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., February 11.—The novel action taken by the women of this city for the suppression of the liquor traffic fully developed itself this afternoon. The organization, composed of about two hundred ladies, met at the Methodist church at three o'clock, and after services and some preliminary arrangements they quietly marched to William Stauss's saloon, one of the most prominent, where they found the doors closed. They asked admittance, but it was a right for service was then commenced upon the sidewalk. By this time the excitement was at its height, and the crowd immense. After singing and several prayers, marched in Conroy's saloon, followed by a vast crowd of men and boys, where they were received with kindness. They asked Fouts to close and quit the business, which he agreed to do, provided they would buy him out. This, we understand, they consented to do. Then several hymns were sung and prayers offered up, but during this time John Ramsport, the bar-tender, was busy dealing out all kinds of drinks to the noisy crowd that had taken possession of the doors and counter. Scores of kegs of beer were sold while the services continued. Many expressions both for and against the movement were to be heard among the vast crowd. It is reported that the bartender said, after the services, that "Financially the meeting was a great success." From here the ladies marched to A. Kleeper's saloon and were met by the proprietor, who kindly tendered them the use of the saloon to hold their devotional exercises. He was asked to discontinue the sale of spirituous liquors and close his saloon, which he declined to do unless they would buy him out, and no arrangement to that effect was made. Singing and praying was then commenced, but the nuisance crowd that came so noisy that the ladies were forced out to the sidewalk, where the services continued for some time. When they were concluded, the hour being late, they adjourned to the church, where further services were held and the hour of one o'clock to-day set to meet and continue their efforts. Large crowds are expected from Louisville and New Albany. The movement has created a great excitement among all classes of citizens, and its effect on the liquor traffic in this city is to be told.

BANK ROBBERY AT QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

One Hundred Thousand Dollars in Money and a Large Amount of Bonds and Valuable Papers Stolen.

CHICAGO, ILL., February 13.—Great excitement is created at Quincy, Ill., this morning by the discovery that the First National bank had been entered and robbed of about one hundred thousand dollars in currency belonging to the bank, besides a quantity of bonds and valuable papers, and it is said quite an amount of special deposits. The bank was entered by cutting through the brick floor of the second story immediately over the vault. The burglars then made a breach through three feet of masonry of about four feet square. They then cut through the thick sheet of boiler iron, with which the vault is lined, and removing it, descended into the vault. They then charged both the money safe and the one containing the bonds and valuable papers with powder, and, by means of a small rubber hose, carried a train to the top of the safe, where a small pistol, screwed to an old ledger, was arranged to set it off. A string was attached to the pistol and passed out of a window of the second story to the street below and by this means the operators were enabled to discharge their blasts when the streets were clear of people. The clock in the bank was stopped at seventeen minutes past two o'clock, as is supposed by the explosion, which must have occurred at that time. The door of the safe, which was a Dodd's burglar proof, was completely wrenched from the hinges. There is no clue whatever to the perpetrators, but one McCoy, recently connected with a variety show, has been arrested and is held on suspicion.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

Wreck of a Freight Train on Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad—Six Men Killed and Nine Cars Burned—Loss of Freight.

ALLENTOWN, PA., February 16.—A train on the Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad, between one and two o'clock this morning, ran into a landslide near Slate Dam station. The engine jumped the track and eighteen cars were piled upon each other, smashing freight of all descriptions, which was strewn along the road and hurled into the river. Not one of the train hands, as far as could be ascertained, escaped injury. The body of Engineer Daniel Shannon was found under the engine considerably burned. Otto Shannon, fireman, chosen Judge, and his term continues until 1881. If the district is not changed, the Democratic lawyers of Cumberland have no outlet for their ambition; and if Perry is set off with Juniata, then Cumberland will have a judge to elect next fall. And so, the milk in *that* coconaut is fully accounted for.

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Mr. Ramey then moved to make the

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 13, 1874.

Caleb Cushing

left here to-night for New York, and thence will visit Providence and Boston on business connected with an important case now pending in the Supreme Court, after which he will pass a few days at Newburyport, his old home. He expects to sail for Madrid in about two weeks.

The Diplomatic Policy

to be pursued toward the new government of Spain will be entirely influenced by the circumstances. The army, with Serrano at the head, is in possession of the government, and the Cortes has been adjourned for a year. The foreign representatives at Madrid are still awaiting more definite action on the part of Serrano in pronouncing the policy of his rule.

The Pearce Prize Case.

In the Fortieth Congress a bill was passed directing the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to distribute the award in what are known as the Farragut prize cases, amounting to about $700,000. The attention of the House Committee on Naval Affairs has been called to the exorbitant amount of costs. General Butler, J. H. Ashton, formerly Assistant Attorney General, and a lawyer of this city were the counsel for the claimants, and the records show that the court allowed a fee of $60,000 to the counsel, or $20,000 a piece for a very small amount of work. There is also allowed a recompense of $300 to a person said to be General Butler's confidential clerk. The whole amount of costs is $65,000. The Committee on Naval Affairs deem it of interest to the government to inquire into this large expenditure.

The Indian Troubles.

Later particulars received at army headquarters increase the apprehensions of a general outbreak among the Sioux. The Indians are the same that visited here with Red Cloud about two years ago. The recent murders were committed two hundred miles away from their reservation. The savages threaten the line of the railroad from the forks of the Platte to the Black Hills, about one hundred and fifty miles. The troops available number one thousand cavalry and seven hundred infantry, which includes garrisons. Operations will be conducted from Fort Laramie, Sanders, D. A. Russell and Fetterman, in Wyoming Territory, and Fort McPherson and Sydney barracks, in Nebraska. Colonel John E. Smith, commanding at Fort Laramie, telegraphs here that he has dispatched a force to intercept and bring back a wagon train sent out by the Indian agents with arms and ammunition.

The Ohio River Commissioners

had a conference with the House Commerce Committee yesterday, which was addressed by Mr. Thurston, its secretary. The committee of the House have no power to act in their power. The commission has adjourned.

Mennonite Immigration.

The Senate Committee on Public Lands today considered Mr. Cameron's resolution setting apart certain public lands for a colony of fifty thousand Mennonites from Russia. Mr. Cameron, with a delegation of Friends, had spreads woe and poverty among us. If not, we will unite our prayers and visit you and every saloon in a body, fervently pleading until our object is attained.

[Signed.]

THE LADIES' COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

It is reported that the Covington ladies will commence picketing next Monday. Forty-one sale of liquors is licensed in Covington by city and State.

Jeffersonville, Ind.

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., February 11.—The novel action taken by the women of this city for the suppression of the liquor traffic fully developed itself this afternoon. The organization, composed of about two hundred ladies, met at the Methodist church at three o'clock, and after services and some preliminary arrangements they quietly marched to William Stauss's saloon, one of the most prominent, where they found the doors closed. They asked for admittance, but it was a right for service was then commenced upon the sidewalk. By this time the excitement was at its height, and the crowd immense. After singing and several prayers, marched in Conroy's saloon, followed by a vast crowd of men and boys, where they were received with kindness. They asked Fouts to close and quit the business, which he agreed to do, provided they would buy him out. This, we understand, they consented to do. Then several hymns were sung and prayers offered up, but during this time John Ramsport, the bar-tender, was busy dealing out all kinds of drinks to the noisy crowd that had taken possession of the doors and counter. Scores of kegs of beer were sold while the services continued. Many expressions both for and against the movement were to be heard among the vast crowd. It is reported that the bartender said, after the services, that "Financially the meeting was a great success." From here the ladies marched to A. Kleeper's saloon and were met by the proprietor, who kindly tendered them the use of the saloon to hold their devotional exercises. He was asked to discontinue the sale of spirituous liquors and close his saloon, which he declined to do unless they would buy him out, and no arrangement to that effect was made. Singing and praying was then commenced, but the nuisance crowd that came so noisy that the ladies were forced out to the sidewalk, where the services continued for some time. When they were concluded, the hour being late, they adjourned to the church, where further services were held and the hour of one o'clock to-day set to meet and continue their efforts. Large crowds are expected from Louisville and New Albany. The movement has created a great excitement among all classes of citizens, and its effect on the liquor traffic in this city is to be told.

BANK ROBBERY AT QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

One Hundred Thousand Dollars in Money and a Large Amount of Bonds and Valuable Papers Stolen.

CHICAGO, ILL., February 13.—Great excitement is created at Quincy, Ill., this morning by the discovery that the First National bank had been entered and robbed of about one hundred thousand dollars in currency belonging to the bank, besides a quantity of bonds and valuable papers, and it is said quite an amount of special deposits. The bank was entered by cutting through the brick floor of the second story immediately over the vault. The burglars then made a breach through three feet of masonry of about four feet square. They then cut through the thick sheet of boiler iron, with which the vault is lined, and removing it, descended into the vault. They then charged both the money safe and the one containing the bonds and valuable papers with powder, and, by means of a small rubber hose, carried a train to the top of the safe, where a small pistol, screwed to an old ledger, was arranged to set it off. A string was attached to the pistol and passed out of a window of the second story to the street below and by this means the operators were enabled to discharge their blasts when the streets were clear of people. The clock in the bank was stopped at seventeen minutes past two o'clock, as is supposed by the explosion, which must have occurred at that time. The door of the safe, which was a Dodd's burglar proof, was completely wrenched from the hinges. There is no clue whatever to the perpetrators, but one McCoy, recently connected with a variety show, has been arrested and is held on suspicion.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

Wreck of a Freight Train on Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad—Six Men Killed and Nine Cars Burned—Loss of Freight.

ALLENTOWN, PA., February 16.—A train on the Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad, between one and two o'clock this morning, ran into a landslide near Slate Dam station. The engine jumped the track and eighteen cars were piled upon each other, smashing freight of all descriptions, which was strewn along the road and hurled into the river. Not one of the train hands, as far as could be ascertained, escaped injury. The body of Engineer Daniel Shannon was found under the engine considerably burned. Otto Shannon, fireman, and Frank Ryan, brakeman, were also scalded and burned. Three others are reported killed. The store in the caboose set fire to the freight and nine cars were burned.

THE EVANS TRIAL.

Reserved Point Decided Against the Prisoner—His Petition for Discharge as Insolvent Debtor.

HARRISBURG, February 13.—Judge Pearson to-day decided the reserved point in the Evans case in favor of the Commonwealth. He said the point was well taken, except for the act of 1870, which gave the Commonwealth the remedy they pursued. Evans's counsel then presented his petition, and asked for his discharge under the insolvent act, which will be heard within a few days.

Death of Dr. James Hildreth, of Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, O., February 16, 1874.

Dr. James Hildreth, an old and respected resident of this county, a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity and Knights Templar, was buried this afternoon with the honors of the above-named societies. A large number of Masons and Knights Templar were in attendance from neighboring towns.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 16, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. ANTHONY presented a memorial signed by the officers of the national banks of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, protesting against the passage of the bill for a withdrawal of currency from New England. Laid on the table.

Mr. KELLY, of Oregon, presented the petition of citizens of that State in regard to charges against his colleague (Mitchell), and asking that the same be investigated by the Senate. Mr. Kelly said he had known Mr. Mitchell twelve years, and knew nothing derogatory to his character. In presenting the charges, he desired it to be distinctly understood that he said nothing in favor of or against them. He moved that the subject be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. So ordered.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN presented a memorial of colored citizens, stating that a number of them had applied to the American Colonization Society for transportation to Liberia, and the Society was unable to send them, and asked that the government detail a vessel to carry them to Liberia and bring back produce; also asking the aid of the government for the construction of a railroad into the interior of Liberia. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. WRIGHT presented the petition of citizens of Iowa for the restoration of duty on tea and coffee, and an increase of duty on manufactured cotton goods. Referred.

Mr. JOHNSTON presented the credentials of H. E. Wilbern, elected United States Senator from Virginia to succeed Lewis. Read and laid on the table.

Mr. ALLISON presented the joint resolution of the Iowa Legislature asking for an appropriation for the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. Referred.

Mr. LOGAN presented the petition of the Illinois Legislature, citizens of Chicago and others, asking for an increase in the volume of currency. Referred.

Mr. ALLISON introduced a bill to revise and continue in force certain land grants in the State of Minnesota, to aid in the construction of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad. Referred.

When the bill for the appointment of a commission on the subject of the alcoholic liquor traffic was reached, Mr. WRIGHT gave notice that he would call it up to-morrow morning for consideration during the morning hour.

Mr. BOREMAN, from the Committee on Claims, reported without amendment the bill appropriating about two hundred thousand dollars to pay some four hundred and eight loyal citizens of Loudoun county, Virginia, for their property destroyed by fire, in conformity with Maj. Gen. Sheridan's order, dated November 12, 1864.

Mr. CAMERON gave notice that on Wednesday he would ask the Senate to take up the House bill in relation to the Centennial exhibition.

Mr. SHERMAN said he would object to anything being considered until after the present bill to equalize the distribution of currency had passed.

At the expiration of the morning hour, the Senate resumed consideration of the bill to equalize the currency, and Mr. CAMERON offered a substitute for it, providing that no bills repealing all acts of Congress which limit or restrict the amount of notes for circulation, and providing that all associations organized to carry on the business of banking, and national banks with a circulation subject to all the limitation now provided by law, except the limit as to circulation, which is hereby repealed.

Mr. CAMERON, in advocating the adoption of his substitute, said he had not heard a single business man say we had enough currency. The national banking system had done much good, and should be extended. His substitute was designed to satisfy the demand for more money without increasing the debt, to the capital already invested in good faith. The law now gave a fixed amount of currency, allowing no greater abandonment of money at one time than another. This fixed amount of currency was a terror to honest men and a jubilee to speculators. The increase of national banks would enable the United States to resume specie payment sooner than by any other process. The present national bank currency was equally as safe, and far more convenient than metallic currency. Increase the facilities and redeemability of notes would soon take the place of greenbacks.

Mr. PRATT said an attempt to return to specie payment now would be disastrous to the whole country, and he would oppose every scheme looking to specie payment. He would support the substitute of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Cameron), believing it to be a wise one. He favored a return to specie payment, but could not shut his eyes to the fact that the only road to resumption was by contraction, and that would be disastrous to the country.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN opposed the substitute, and said its adoption would be of greater injury to the commercial and manufacturing interests of the country than the rebellion was. He favored reasonable retrenchment and the imposition of taxes. He believed the tax on whisky should be increased to one dollar a gallon, and on tobacco to thirty-two cents a pound. The pledge given to pay treasury notes in coin should be redeemed.

Mr. FLANAGAN favored a return to specie payment as soon as practicable.

The House refused to make this bill the special order for Wednesday, and it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

The House then adjourned.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1874.

IT MAY not be generally known that the fee for registered letters has been reduced to eight cents to any part of the United States, England and Germany, and five cents to Canada and the British Provinces. For this fee of eight cents, the sender will receive a return receipt, from any part of the United States, without expense or postage, signed by the party to whom the letter is delivered. It would, therefore, seem to be advisable for everybody to register all letters of importance and value.

THE Patrons of Husbandry, having, like sensible men, declared, in National Convention, that their Order is wholly without political signification, the Democratic press of the country, erewhile kindled by profound and profuse interest in the movement, now turns sharply round and begins to denounce and deride the very organization to which, only a few weeks ago, it professed to look for the salvation of the country. The snubbed spider saw no beauty in the retiring fly, and grapes that hang out of reach are said to be entirely destitute of saccharine quality and flavor.

A BILL has been introduced in Congress, providing that the rate of postage between cities adjoining one another, or divided by a body of water less than two miles in width, shall be two cents per half ounce. It ought to pass. At present a letter from Pittsburgh to Allegheny costs three cents, the same amount which it costs to send it to the remotest part of Oregon or Texas. Communities closely united in their geographical, social and commercial relations, should be similarly united by postal facilities. The present discrimination is as absurd as unjust.

WE LEARN from the Washington papers that Governor JOHN C. BROWN, of Tennessee, has arrived there "for the purpose of pressing the claims of his State against the government for the seizure and operation of railroads during the war." And we sincerely trust that "Governor JOHN C. BROWN, of Tennessee," may speedily be sent back to his State with a flea in his ear. What "claims" has Tennessee against the government in this respect, more than any other Southern State into which the Union armies fought their way foot by foot, and maintained their occupancy by battle? Should this "claim" be granted, we shall probably next hear that South Carolina and the rest of the Southern States have followed suit. Will there never be an end to this sublimated effrontery and impudence?

REFERENCE has already been made in these columns to the construction placed by the Treasury Department on the first section of the act of March 3, 1873, fixing the value of foreign coins. The Department holds that the provisions of the section apply to the custom house valuation of foreign invoices for the assessment of duty, while the importers contend that there is nothing in the act to justify any change of the specific valuations placed by a long series of acts of Congress upon foreign currencies for custom house purposes. The Department is in receipt of numerous protests and appeals from importers against the construction so placed; but, being fortified by an affirmative opinion from the Attorney General, is not in a mood to depart from its announced interpretation of the law. It is probable that an appeal to Congress will ultimately be taken in the matter.

HERE are a few figures which are respectfully commended to the consideration of those who propose to cheapen transportation by getting Congress to build a new railroad at the cost of a couple of hundred millions of dollars, and let somebody else own and run it. In Missouri there are 2,857 miles of road, the value of which, with their rolling stock, equipment and other property, not including government lands, is estimated at $24,231,330. The Governor, in a late message, says he does not know how much the land grants these roads have received from Congress are worth, but shows that to build these $24,000,000 worth of railroads, the directors obtained bonds of the State to the amount of $16,762,994; and bonds of counties, cities and townships to the amount of $28,576,000, making a total of $45,-338 904, or an excess of "aid" over the whole value of the property of $21,107,574.

A PROPOSITION for a National Lumbermen's Association is engaging the attention of the lumber trade throughout the country, and the opinions and suggestions of influential parties in the trade are being solicited regarding such an organization—if not suggested by, at least designed to be in some respects like that of the American Iron and Steel Association. It has only been within the past five or six years that statistics of a reliable character concerning this important interest have been collected and published in the United States, and it is affirmed that even now lumbermen work more in the dark than any other class of manufacturers. The waste of timber and the destruction of forests are also questions of grave importance. Many wild speculations are indulged in by writers of different sections, and it would be well to have some progress towards a fair degree of accuracy attempted as regards the future yield, which could hardly be better accomplished than through the instrumentality of such an association.

NEW ORLEANS seems to be making very considerable progress toward the attainment of her ambition as the grand outlet for the produce of the Mississippi Valley. The number and tonnage of steamboats now running to and from that port will probably surprise some who have not watched the progress of the movement. There are at present seven regular steamship lines trading between that port and Europe, with an aggregate tonnage of upwards of a hundred thousand tons, besides occasional steamers for European ports, and regular lines to Havana, Central America, etc., not to mention the various lines for New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and the various ports of the Gulf coast, and on the Mississippi river. In a late number of the New Orleans *Times* we find no fewer than twenty-six vessels advertised for Liverpool, nine for Havre, two for Barcelona, and one each for Hamburg, Genoa and Antwerp. New Orleans is evidently becoming awakened to the necessity of keeping abreast of the times as regards the vital question of increased commercial facilities.

THE prevailing impression among well-informed Republicans in Connecticut is that the State will be redeemed from Democratic rule at the ensuing election on the first Monday in April. Before the State Convention was held the indications of a successful campaign were most hopeful, and these have been greatly strengthened and fortified by the harmonious results of that gathering. The nominations were in accordance with a popular opinion which has rarely found such an unanimity of expression in advance of the delegated action of the party, and the platform is certainly a clear, well advanced and aggressive one; while, so acceptable are both the ticket and the platform, that even the bitterest of the Democratic organs do not attempt to assail them, except on narrow partisan grounds. We trust, however, that our friends will not suffer their encouraging outlook to diminish their zeal. Harmony is nothing without work, and considering the closeness of parties in that State in the most promising seasons, the Republicans must give early and late attention to every point of the campaign, as they will inevitably encounter a well organized and desperate assault from the forces arrayed against them.

A WEEK or two ago we gave a summarized statement, based on statistics furnished by the leading New York papers, showing that the imports at that port for last year, excluding specie, were forty-six million less, and the exports sixty-four millions more than that for the year 1872, making a difference in the balance of trade of one hundred million dollars at that single port. The returns for January of the present year show a continued change in the same direction. The imports at New York for January, 1874, were only $30,310,679, against $37,803,691 for the same month of last year, while the shipments of produce and merchandise amounted to $33,455,633, against $20,050,556 in the same month of last year, and $18,951,004 in 1872. These are auspicious signs for our foreign trade. Usually the returns at New York include about two-thirds of the total foreign imports of the United States, and only about forty per cent. of the exports, both exclusive of specie. The proportion of exports has increased so, that of late forty-six to forty-eight per cent. of the total exports have gone from that district. But for the first time in the history of this country have the exports from New York for any given period approximated the imports.

THE people of Denver, Colorado, are greatly elated over the annual trade report of that city, which has just been published. The population is now something over 22,500, a gain of 8,906 during the year. The real and personal property valuation of Denver for 1873 was $9,-381,100; in 1869 it was but $500,290. This is $3,507,191 greater than the assessment roll of the city of Leavenworth for the year 1873, and from $1,000,000 to $2,500,000 greater than the valuation of Kansas City, Omaha, Dubuque or Salt Lake, for the same time; and of either of the entire Territories of Wyoming, Montana, Idaho or Arizona. The valuation of Denver in 1865 was but $500,290. There has also been a remarkably active spirit of development at work in the Territory generally, during the past two or three years. The census of 1870 gave Colorado a population of something over 39,000. It has now nearly 105,000 inhabitants. Since that date, also, some forty new towns have been laid out, several of them being already large and prosperous, with banks, newspapers, daily mails, churches, schools and other accompaniments of thrifty and intelligent communities. In the fall of 1869 there was not a mile of railroad track within the Territory; the number of miles of road now in actual operation is 608 with 230 miles additional under construction. The gold and silver product since 1870 has been as follows: In 1870 $3,750,000; in 1871, $4,000,000; in 1872, $4,300,-000; in 1873, $5,600,000, making a total in four years of $17,130,000. Live stock is also an important and growing industry. There are over 400,000 head of cattle and 1,000,000 sheep, as per the returns to the Territorial Auditor. The value of these is over $8,000,000, and the increase of flocks, sales and imports, wool and hides, gives an annual trade of $2,500 000. The total value of the principal products of the State for 1873 was $18,800,000; from which it will be seen that the progress of Colorado in population, in the development of her farms, mines and manufactures, and in general industries during the past year has been such as hardly any other Western Territory can show.

Moreover, as to these latter qualities, essential to national prosperity everywhere, and especially indispensable in a republic like ours, they furnish a much more satisfactory and conclusive argument in favor of the German school system than any derivable from the German triumphs at Sadowa and Sedan. Of course we merely mean general popular education without reference to details founded on social relations and form of government. All foreign witnesses agree in describing the admirable results both in individuals and in society which can be justly ascribed to the influence of the popular schools in Germany. A recent most competent American witness writes that "education more than anything else has fraternized the great German nation." The school, he says, has there been the prime agent of loyalty. "Love of country is the germ it long ago planted in the heart of every child—the fruit whereof, now matured, gladdens and enriches the whole land." The devotion with which Germans, even in this country, regard the fatherland, is sometimes unreasonably made the subject of reproach, and no one will question the genuineness of the sentiment. It has been deliberately and assiduously cultivated in the schools, and the policy is unquestionably worthy of more systematic imitation among us than it has ever received. In order to cultivate patriotism it is not necessary to falsify history in our school books, as MR. GOLDWIN SMITH says we do. Truth must always be held sacred in schools, whatever may suffer, and if the American people are ever to become one homogeneous nation, really devoted to their country in the spirit of true patriotism, the schools inventing again or borrowing some of the German and Swiss methods, will have much to do with the result.

German thrift, German industry, and the patient and honest pursuit of competence and wealth on the solid grounds of fact and fair dealing—traits which have long been proverbial of the nation—have been carefully cultivated in the schools. It is, we believe, notorious that wherever Germans go, by their self-control, providence, industry and the associated qualities, they outstrip Englishmen and Americans, Teutons like themselves. What some of this difference is of course due to other influences, much of it is the direct outcome of the moral education received in their schools. In this country they sometimes fearfully retrograde.

As the reader may have perceived, we are not advocating compulsory education, but only criticising an argument much used in Illinois in favor of such legislation. We may, however, add that if American schools could be made as efficient nurseries, not only of patriotism, but of industry in business, laboriousness, self-denial, self-control, and similar virtues, as the schools of Germany have long been, such education would present a powerful reason why all should be compelled to partake of it. The argument much urged in Illinois that those who favor compulsory education favor the tyranny of the government over the people, does not seem to us overwhelmingly strong. No American favors compulsory education where a majority of the people are hostile to the measure, and it must always be the case if tyranny were practiced, it would be the familiar tyranny of the majority. It is, however, clear enough that unless only a very small minority of the people opposed a law of the kind, its enforcement would be impossible, while the results would be injurious to the schools as they exist. But it is a well known fact that not only in Germany but in Switzerland, people at first hostile to compulsion are now a unit in its favor. The law on the subject is only the legal expression of the public will.

THE petty, provincial spirit which prevails in New York, Boston, and some other cities we could name, with regard to the Centennial celebration, is something pitiful. The mean, local jealousy of Philadelphia, which prompts it, is discreditable in the highest degree. If Boston or New York had been the scene of the Declaration or American Independence, and Philadelphia had betrayed a similar spirit to that now displayed by those two cities, what fierce diatribes would have been launched at her head! The hostility that is evinced, in this instance, is not to the celebration itself, but to the city in which it is to take place. Those who are paltry enough to look at it from that standpoint, fear that the celebration will give Philadelphia a prominence over New York and Boston, and they cannot reconcile themselves to the possibility of any such result. The world, to them, begins and ends in the cities in which they live.

Now, we take it for granted that every one is as grand as the Centennary American Independence is worthy of celebration; and if so, the proper and only place for the celebration is on the spot where the original Declaration was made. This, it so happens, is in Philadelphia, and the celebration is to take place there, not because it is Philadelphia, but because Philadelphia was the theater on which that grand scene was originally displayed.

If it is proper, then, that the celebration should be held, and that it should be held on the spot made sacred by the original act, it is also proper that it should befit the occasion. Such a celebration is, in all its aspects, a national one; and it cannot be observed as it should be without costing something. Surely, a nation which is just rounding off the first century of its Independence, will not be so mean as to throw the entire cost of the Jubilee upon the people of one city alone. That would be niggardly beyond all precedent. New York may be low enough for, that, and Boston likewise; but the nation at large cannot be so void of all magnanimity! The King of Judah, when he dedicated the Temple and called all Israel to the feast, footed the entire bill and sent the people away full and rejoicing; and if the United States wants to re-dedicate the Temple of Liberty, she ought to be magnanimous enough not only to spread the feast but to bear the burden of its cost.

THE French liquor law against venders of spirituous liquors who encourage habits of intoxication, inflicts upon the cafe and tavern keepers, and other dealers, who sell liquors to persons manifestly drunk, or receive them into their establishments, as well as upon those who serve alcoholic drinks to minors under sixteen, a fine of from one to five francs. If the dealer can prove that he was mistaken in the age of the party he is released on this score. After a second conviction, if guilty within a year of either of the above named offenses, they are punished by imprisonment of six days to one month, or by a fine of sixteen to three hundred francs. Commission of either of these offenses within a year following, renders the offender liable to the double the maximum penalty previously imposed. On the second conviction the culprit forfeits his electoral, jury and office-holding rights, as well as that to bear arms, and the tribunal can order the closing of the offender's establishment for a period not exceeding one month. The text of the law is required to be affixed to the doors of all the mayoralties, and placed in the principal room of all cafes, taverns and other drinking places. The penalty for destroying or injuring these posters is a fine from one to five francs and the expense of replacing them. The execution of this law is confided to the rural and other officers of the police courts in their respective jurisdictions, for the purpose of proving violations of it.

THE Chinese are supposed to have little of that vast and accurate knowledge of right and wrong that we arrogate to ourselves; and yet the Chinamen in San Francisco have submitted a proposition to their enemies in California on the subject of the disabilities which they are subjected to, so excellent in temper and so fair in its conditions as to put American justice to shame. They complain of the discriminations made against them in California, Oregon and Nevada, and assert that Americans are not thus treated in China. If their presence here is distasteful, the people they pledge themselves to withdraw from the country, provided Americans in China will withdraw from that country—each to return to his own land, and the treaty regulations between the two nations to be abrogated. If this is not acceptable to Americans, then they ask that they be treated in America as Americans are treated in China. Their appeal concludes thus:

"This is our proposition. Will the American people accept it? Will the newspapers which have lately said so many things against us and against our residence in this country—will they now aid us in bringing about this, to us, desirable state of affairs? In the meantime, since we are now here under sacred treaty stipulations, we humbly pray that we may be treated according to those stipulations, and that our treaty relations could be renewed. We can from its discussion.

In the discussion to ponderous importance is attached to the alleged share of the German public school system in the victories of Sadowa and Sedan. Americans, especially Americans of the West, have a keen appreciation of facts, and an equally keen admiration for prowess and for the personal qualities which render prowess effective. Hence, likely enough, some of those who, in their advocacy of compulsory education, appeal to the military successes of the Germans, are merely making an adroit use of popular prejudices. In fact, the military results of education are about the last argument entitled to consideration in favor of enforced attendance at school. It is, however, true that, other things being equal, an educated man makes a better soldier than an ignorant one. This may or may not have been the case formerly under the old methods of warfare, but it is indubitably the case since the application of science to the art of killing has assigned to every private soldier a part which calls for intelligence and high moral qualities in its performance. But in this country especially, every man may look forward to the enjoyment of better opportunites than any that war affords for the exercise of whatever cultivated intelligence and trained energies he may possess. The republic may or may not become involved in hostile conflict with foreign powers. This anticipation is a mere contingency, while the obligation resting upon those who most need such education as the State bestows, to become skilful, honest and persevering workmen, sober and judicious heads of families, and industries during the past year has been such as hardly any other Western Territory can show.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

In the speech which General VON MOLTKE is reported to have made in the Reichstag on the 16th instant, we probably have an explanation of the sensational dispatch which, a few days ago, spoke of extraordinary activity in the German arsenals. The framer of the dispatch connected the alleged fact with the emergence of freshly unsatisfactory relations between Germany and France, and evidently desired to intimate the probability of an early conflict of arms between the two countries. If there are or have been lately signs of revived activity on the part of the Germans in preparation for war, the fact is, no doubt, sufficiently accounted for by General VON MOLTKE'S declaration that "what they (the Germans) had acquired in six months they would have to protect by force of arms for a century to come." Whatever hopes may formerly have been entertained that the French would, in the course of a long or shorter period, become reconciled to the results of the last war, must long ago have been given up by the most sanguine lovers of peace. Differing among themselves widely and fiercely on most other subjects, French parties agree touching one matter, the duty and necessity of retaliation for the humiliation they have suffered at the hands of Germans. Instead of being mitigated by time, the sentiment plainly grows deeper and more bitter. One may sometimes hear the fact alleged in evidence of the dreadful mistake made by BISMARCK in seizing and appropriating French territory, the act most frequently referred to by Frenchmen as justifying or even making unavoidable another war in the interest of humanity. Annexation may have been a mistake in practical statesmanship, as it was certainly a measure of extreme rigor, but there is no good reason to believe that the French would have resented their defeats less keenly, or would have cherished the spirit of revenge less persistently, if the Germans had abstained from taking a single one of their fortresses or an acre of their ground. Sedan could never have been forgiven; possibly magnanimity on the part of the victors would have made the memory of it only more harrowing.

Doubtless there are many of the French people who would gladly forget the past, content to strive with their neighbors in the arts of peace alone. But those who thus feel do not exercise a controlling influence in the nation. The ruling classes may be divided into those who, identifying revenge with the interests of the Holy See, are willing to unite, take up arms at once, in full assurance of Divine aid equal to any odds in so righteous a conflict; and into those who, knowing the present weakness of the nation, feel the necessity of waiting for a more convenient season before renewing the struggle. France, they admit, must be restored to full vigor, the new military organization must be fully developed, and the financial condition must be satisfactory before the great attempt can be made with reasonable hopes of success. If possible, an ally or allies must be obtained, and such co-operation is confidently looked for as the result of international jealousies and complications in the course of the next ten or fifteen years. In the meantime peace with Germany must be maintained at the cost of whatever acts of self-abnegation and reserve may be at all consistent with national dignity and self-respect.

As German statesmen frankly recognize the necessity imposed upon their nation of being always and ever ready to defend its territorial acquisitions, as they proudly regard a conflict as inevitable in the future, it may be that some of them at least would rather it could be hastened. Neither BISMARCK nor MOLTKE can reckon on very many more years of active service, and though, no doubt, there are younger men to take their places, neither of the giants may feel sure that his place, though taken, can be filled. Then strange revolutions of opinion and feeling regarding both foreign and home relations are possible in the empire, on the accession of a young emperor—events which cannot be very remote. Besides, if France must be fought some time, there would be manifest advantage in fighting France before she feels herself restored and ready for the struggle. At any rate, the tone recently assumed towards France in the official and semi-official press of Berlin, implies anything else than a desire to handle her susceptibilities with tenderness. When the press organ of the German government felt at liberty to declare "the French government responsible for the abusive articles of the Paris journals" and for the "minatory pastorals of the French Bishops;" when the organ could further say, "we require from President MACMAHON that he shall put limitations to Germany to be uttered unpunished in his country; otherwise we shall consider him as our enemy, who desires to bring about quarrel and war with us, or as a weak, incapable man, who does not know how to establish for himself any authority in his country;" it was certainly safe to infer that the authority which dictated or inspired such language was in no agreeable humor. It is not strange that the words created a profound sensation in Paris and Versailles. In connection with more reserved and decorous representations through the German ambassador, they gave President MACMAHON to understand that unless he restrained the tongues and pens of his Ultramontane supporters, serious complications might be the consequence. The result was the suspension of the Ultramontane journal, the *Univers*, which had long been conspicuous for its abuse of the German government, and had just published a particularly denunciatory pastoral of the Bishop of Perigueux.

The impression produced among the intelligent classes in France by this interference with the liberty of the press at the dictation of a foreign government, is said to have been general and profound. Naturally the measure will neither lessen the abhorrence with which French Catholics regard German policy, nor increase French love for the Germans. As an act of conciliation on the part of the French government, it defeated the purpose of BISMARCK to provoke an immediate quarrel, if any such purpose was entertained. The affair has, however, served to bring home very vividly to the minds of the German people the antagonism of the French and the splendid German triumphs which lie behind it, and an impression may thus have been revived or produced not unfavorable in different ways to the permanent military policy which the present Reichstag is expected to place upon broad and solid foundations. This impression may be purely incidental, or it may have been contemplated from the first by the sagacious Chancellor, as an alternative, in case his remonstrances should be received with concession instead of defiance. The speculation seems rather fine drawn, but those who like it and dislike the Prince, may take it for what it is worth.

A USEFUL EXAMPLE.

In both Missouri and Illinois the subject of compulsory education is at present engaging the attention of the Legislatures and the people. In Illinois the tendency of opinion seems unmistakably favorable to some form of legal interference for the prevention of illiteracy, and a law, modeled upon the Massachusetts statute on the subject, has been prepared and submitted to the Legislature with somewhat fair prospect of adoption. Arguments *pro* and *contra* are earnestly urged in conversation and in the newspapers; so that, whether the law proposed be adopted or not, the people of Illinois will have acquired some clear and definite comprehension of the questions involved in such legislation. No one, we suppose, even of those most hostile to compulsory education, would deny that very erroneous notions prevail concerning its nature and tendency. Sound knowledge and clear views are always desirable, and whether the people accept or reject the legislation in question, they could can come from its discussion.

In the discussion to ponderous importance is attached to the alleged share of the German public school system in the victories of Sadowa and Sedan. Americans, especially Americans of the West, have a keen appreciation of facts, and an equally keen admiration for prowess and for the personal qualities which render prowess effective. Hence, likely enough, some of those who, in their advocacy of compulsory education, appeal to the military successes of the Germans, are merely making an adroit use of popular prejudices. In fact, the military results of education are about the last argument entitled to consideration in favor of enforced attendance at school. It is, however, true that, other things being equal, an educated man makes a better soldier than an ignorant one. This may or may not have been the case formerly under the old methods of warfare, but it is indubitably the case since the application of science to the art of killing has assigned to every private soldier a part which calls for intelligence and high moral qualities in its performance. But in this country especially, every man may look forward to the enjoyment of better opportunites than any that war affords for the exercise of whatever cultivated intelligence and trained energies he may possess. The republic may or may not become involved in hostile conflict with foreign powers. This anticipation is a mere contingency, while the obligation resting upon those who most need such education as the State bestows, to become skilful, honest and persevering workmen, sober and judicious heads of families, and industries during the past year has been such as hardly any other Western Territory can show.

Moreover, as to these latter qualities, essential to national prosperity everywhere, and especially indispensable in a republic like ours, they furnish a much more satisfactory and conclusive argument in favor of the German school system than any derivable from the German triumphs at Sadowa and Sedan. Of course we merely mean general popular education without reference to details founded on social relations and form of government. All foreign witnesses agree in describing the admirable results both in individuals and in society which can be justly ascribed to the influence of the popular schools in Germany. A recent most competent American witness writes that "education more than anything else has fraternized the great German nation." The school, he says, has there been the prime agent of loyalty. "Love of country is the germ it long ago planted in the heart of every child—the fruit whereof, now matured, gladdens and enriches the whole land." The devotion with which Germans, even in this country, regard the fatherland, is sometimes unreasonably made the subject of reproach, and no one will question the genuineness of the sentiment. It has been deliberately and assiduously cultivated in the schools, and the policy is unquestionably worthy of more systematic imitation among us than it has ever received. In order to cultivate patriotism it is not necessary to falsify history in our school books, as MR. GOLDWIN SMITH says we do. Truth must always be held sacred in schools, whatever may suffer, and if the American people are ever to become one homogeneous nation, really devoted to their country in the spirit of true patriotism, the schools inventing again or borrowing some of the German and Swiss methods, will have much to do with the result.

German thrift, German industry, and the patient and honest pursuit of competence and wealth on the solid grounds of fact and fair dealing—traits which have long been proverbial of the nation—have been carefully cultivated in the schools. It is, we believe, notorious that wherever Germans go, by their self-control, providence, industry and the associated qualities, they outstrip Englishmen and Americans, Teutons like themselves. What some of this difference is of course due to other influences, much of it is the direct outcome of the moral education received in their schools. In this country they sometimes fearfully retrograde.

As the reader may have perceived, we are not advocating compulsory education, but only criticising an argument much used in Illinois in favor of such legislation. We may, however, add that if American schools could be made as efficient nurseries, not only of patriotism, but of industry in business, laboriousness, self-denial, self-control, and similar virtues, as the schools of Germany have long been, such education would present a powerful reason why all should be compelled to partake of it. The argument much urged in Illinois that those who favor compulsory education favor the tyranny of the government over the people, does not seem to us overwhelmingly strong. No American favors compulsory education where a majority of the people are hostile to the measure, and it must always be the case if tyranny were practiced, it would be the familiar tyranny of the majority. It is, however, clear enough that unless only a very small minority of the people opposed a law of the kind, its enforcement would be impossible, while the results would be injurious to the schools as they exist. But it is a well known fact that not only in Germany but in Switzerland, people at first hostile to compulsion are now a unit in its favor. The law on the subject is only the legal expression of the public will.

THE petty, provincial spirit which prevails in New York, Boston, and some other cities we could name, with regard to the Centennial celebration, is something pitiful. The mean, local jealousy of Philadelphia, which prompts it, is discreditable in the highest degree. If Boston or New York had been the scene of the Declaration or American Independence, and Philadelphia had betrayed a similar spirit to that now displayed by those two cities, what fierce diatribes would have been launched at her head! The hostility that is evinced, in this instance, is not to the celebration itself, but to the city in which it is to take place. Those who are paltry enough to look at it from that standpoint, fear that the celebration will give Philadelphia a prominence over New York and Boston, and they cannot reconcile themselves to the possibility of any such result. The world, to them, begins and ends in the cities in which they live.

Now, we take it for granted that every one is as grand as the Centennary American Independence is worthy of celebration; and if so, the proper and only place for the celebration is on the spot where the original Declaration was made. This, it so happens, is in Philadelphia, and the celebration is to take place there, not because it is Philadelphia, but because Philadelphia was the theater on which that grand scene was originally displayed.

If it is proper, then, that the celebration should be held, and that it should be held on the spot made sacred by the original act, it is also proper that it should befit the occasion. Such a celebration is, in all its aspects, a national one; and it cannot be observed as it should be without costing something. Surely, a nation which is just rounding off the first century of its Independence, will not be so mean as to throw the entire cost of the Jubilee upon the people of one city alone. That would be niggardly beyond all precedent. New York may be low enough for, that, and Boston likewise; but the nation at large cannot be so void of all magnanimity! The King of Judah, when he dedicated the Temple and called all Israel to the feast, footed the entire bill and sent the people away full and rejoicing; and if the United States wants to re-dedicate the Temple of Liberty, she ought to be magnanimous enough not only to spread the feast but to bear the burden of its cost.

THE French liquor law against venders of spirituous liquors who encourage habits of intoxication, inflicts upon the cafe and tavern keepers, and other dealers, who sell liquors to persons manifestly drunk, or receive them into their establishments, as well as upon those who serve alcoholic drinks to minors under sixteen, a fine of from one to five francs. If the dealer can prove that he was mistaken in the age of the party he is released on this score. After a second conviction, if guilty within a year of either of the above named offenses, they are punished by imprisonment of six days to one month, or by a fine of sixteen to three hundred francs. Commission of either of these offenses within a year following, renders the offender liable to the double the maximum penalty previously imposed. On the second conviction the culprit forfeits his electoral, jury and office-holding rights, as well as that to bear arms, and the tribunal can order the closing of the offender's establishment for a period not exceeding one month. The text of the law is required to be affixed to the doors of all the mayoralties, and placed in the principal room of all cafes, taverns and other drinking places. The penalty for destroying or injuring these posters is a fine from one to five francs and the expense of replacing them. The execution of this law is confided to the rural and other officers of the police courts in their respective jurisdictions, for the purpose of proving violations of it.

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"This is our proposition. Will the American people accept it? Will the newspapers which have lately said so many things against us and against our residence in this country—will they now aid us in bringing about this, to us, desirable state of affairs? In the meantime, since we are now here under sacred treaty stipulations, we humbly pray that we may be treated according to those stipulations, and that our treaty relations could be renewed. We can

THE GRANGERS.

Full Text of their Recently Adopted Platform.

At the recent session, in St. Louis, of the National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, the following declaration of principles and objects was adopted:

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this declaration of purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of the order, our country and mankind.

2. We heartily indorse the motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects, to-wit:

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and encourage each other in labor. To hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and crop more than we sell. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel, and more on hoof and in fleece. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We purpose meeting together, working together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement as occasion may require. We shall avoid litigation as much as possible by arbitration in the grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among our members, and to make our order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

3. For our business interests we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with a surplus of middle men; not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits. We wage no agressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our aims and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests, and tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually advantageous. Keeping in view the first sentence in our declaration of principles of action, that individual happiness depends upon general prosperity," we shall therefore advocate for every State the increase in every practicable way of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the seaboard, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose to open out the channel's in Nature's great arteries, that the life-blood of commerce may flow freely. We are not enemies of railroads, navigation and irrigating canals, nor of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes. But no noble order of men is in communism, no agrarianism. We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies of capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonistical elements of labor and capital move by common consent, and by enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest and exorbitant profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of producers. We desire only self-protection and the protection of every interest of our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade and legitimate profits.

4. We shall constantly keep in view the importance of a true system of education among ourselves and for our children by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that scientific investigations in agriculture, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

5. We especially and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth in our organic law that the grange, national, State or subordinate, is not a political party organization. No grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political questions, nominate political candidates, put conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings. Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country. For we seek the greatest good to the greatest number, but we must always bear in mind that no one by becoming a Patron of Husbandry gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country. On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions. It should always characterize every Patron of Husbandry that to the office should seek the man and not the man the office. We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that progress and truth are made by differences of opinion, while the fault lies in bitterness of controversy. We desire a proper equality, equality and fairness, protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong, in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and we advocate a similar spirit to that now displayed by those two cities, what fierce diatribes would have been launched at her head! The hostility that is evinced, in this instance, is not to the celebration itself, but to the city in which it is to take place. Those who are paltry enough to look at it from that standpoint, fear that the celebration will give Philadelphia a prominence over New York and Boston, and they cannot reconcile themselves to the possibility of any such result. The world, to them, begins and ends in the cities in which they live.

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A FAITHLESS WIFE.

A Fremont Wife Runs Away from Her Husband in Company with a Naval officer—Pursuit of the Husband.

Some time ago a naval officer obtained a six months' leave of absence from his vessel, on account of his health, and went to Fremont to spend part of his vacation. There he met an old acquaintance, who had a pretty little wife of twenty-two. Quite a friendship sprung up between the two, which grew to such proportions that the husband began to think that everything was not as it should be, and consequently he forbade the naval gentleman visiting his house again. But, as is usual, they had private interviews, and the plans for the future were laid out. Wednesday the naval gentleman left Fremont and came to this city. The next day the wife made some pretext and followed him. The husband, 23 soon as he learned their destination, followed in not haste, arriving there yesterday morning. On the way here he intercepted a dispatch from some one in Fremont, warning his wife to take care, as her husband was on his way to Toledo. It was directed in care of Madame Hunter, on Allen street. With the dispatch in his possession, he proceeded to the services of Detective Burbank, and the two paid a visit to Madame Hunter, who, of course, denied all knowledge of the affair. But it was subsequently discovered that they remained there a little while and then went to the house of Julia Griswold, on Jefferson street, where they passed the night, leaving for parts unknown. The husband, thus losing all trace of them, returned to Fremont to meditate upon the unfaithfulness of women. —*Toledo Blade*, 14th.

IT IS said that a woman is at the bottom of every trouble, and there is no doubt that, with a man to help, she can work wonders. Just now, woman

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, February 21, 1874.

THE ELECTION.

The Official Returns for Allegheny City.

The Successful Candidates for Councilmen and Ward Officers.

The Judges of Election in the various voting precincts of Allegheny met in convention at City Hall Wednesday for the purpose of footing up the total vote for Mayor, and signing a return sheet embodying the result to be filed with the Clerk of Courts. All the Judges were present except the Judge of the Ninth ward.

Mr. J. D. Walker, Judge of the First precinct, Third ward, was called to the chair and the reporters of the press chosen Secretaries.

A committee of one was deputed to bring in the missing Judge of the Ninth ward.

In the mean time, the returns from the other election districts were read, as appears below in tabular form.

J. B. Roth, Judge of the Seventh ward, said he left all his election papers with the Clerk of Courts in the morning, and had only a copy of the vote for Mayor. He was willing, however, to be qualified to the correctness of the copy.

On motion of Mr. Keown, it was received as regular.

The tally sheet of the Eighth ward was presented instead of the certified returns, but, on motion, it, too, was received as regular.

After the returns were all read and recorded by the Secretaries, Mr. Roth, from the Seventh ward, announced that he had made a mistake of one hundred (100) in his returns. Fairley, for Mayor, had been credited with four hundred and twenty-seven (427) votes, and had only received three hundred and twenty-seven.

Mr. Roth, being asked would he swear to the fact that he had made that error in taking the copy, replied that he was willing to make an affidavit to that effect.

On the strength of this statement the Convention voted to make the change from 427 to 327 in the vote cast for Mr. Fairley in the Seventh ward.

The Ninth ward Judge made his appearance, and his returns were read.

The returns were then footed up and signed by the Judges, when the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

THE VOTE FOR MAYOR.

WARDS.	Phillips.	Dilworth.	Fairley.	Swoope.	Smith.
First	397	171	68	5	1
Second	445	205	197	13	1
Third, 1st precinct	226	101	203	3	1
Third, 2d precinct	96	302	286	9	1
Third, 3d precinct	364	272	119	4	1
Fourth, 1st precinct	75	145	169	2	1
Fourth, 2d precinct	387	192	111	2	1
Fifth	356	267	70	2	1
Seventh	51	327	214	20	1
Eighth	62	158	53	4	1
Ninth	80	145	22	3	1
Tenth		73	37	17	1
Eleventh		103	22	3	1
Total	2,798	2,851	1,626	130	12

TOTAL VOTE.

Phillips	2,798
Fairley	2,851
Smith	1,626
Swoope	130
Phillips' majority over Fairley	37

OBITUARY.

Hon. Henry Bucher Swoope.

The serious illness of the Hon. H. B. Swoope, United States District Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and editor of the "Evening Telegraph" of this city, terminated in death Monday morning, at a quarter before four o'clock, at his residence in East Liberty. As our readers generally are aware, Mr. Swoope had been in ill health for several years, and for two or three weeks past his situation had been critical. He was afflicted with hemorrhoids, and his physician, Dr. King, had concluded that the only chance of saving his life was by resorting to a surgical operation, and such an operation there were fond cations of a recovery, but these were but delusive and temporary, and the patient sank rapidly and expired. The "Telegraph" of last evening contains the following biographical sketch:

Mr. Swoope was born in the town of Huntingdon, in this State, on the 11th of Jur, 1831. His father, Doctor William Swoope, was an eminent physician of central Pennsylvania, and intended his son for the medical profession. He attended medical lectures for two years at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and subsequently prosecuted his studies in his father's office at Huntingdon, the talent of his mind, however, was rather towards law and politics, than medicine, and he entered the office of Hon. John Scott, at present United States Senator, with whom he pursued his legal studies with characteristic energy. He was admitted to the bar before he was twenty-one years of age, and was associated with Mr. Scott at Huntingdon for about a year and a half, when Mr. Swoope removed to Clearfield, where he rapidly attained a high position in his profession, and married a lawyer, and was entrusted with cases of the highest importance. In politics he was an active Whig as long as the Whig party had a national existence, of the American party, and on its formation became a zealous supporter of the Republican principles and organization. He remained in Clearfield, practicing with great success in the State and United States courts, until President Grant, in January, 1870, appointed him United States District Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Mr. Swoope then removed to Pittsburgh, and has been a resident here since that time. In January last, he was reappointed and commissioned for another four years' term as United States Attorney.

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE COURTS.

Due respect was paid to the memory of the deceased, yesterday, by the members of the bar, by death having been announced in the several courts.

In the United States District Court, Judge McCandless presiding, W. S. Haven, Esq., made the announcement, and paid a fitting tribute to the learning ability and fidelity of the deceased. He was followed by Judge Kelly, who highly eulogized Mr. Swoope's character as an orator and an advocate. Judge McCandless said he was deeply impressed with the solemnity of the occasion. He had known Mr. Swoope, an able and distinguished lawyer, during the last few years he had been intimately associated with him in the administration of the business of the government and of the courts of the United States. He was a man of eminent ability, a profound lawyer, an accomplished scholar and eloquent orator. He made his impress upon the bar and upon the public. I deeply deplore his loss, and join with the bar in paying a proper respect to his memory, and therefore, out of respect to his memory, the court will now adjourn.

In the District Court, Judge Collier, White, Hon. R. B. Carnahan, Mr. Swoope's predecessor in office, said: I make to the court the announcement of the death of the Hon. H. B. Swoope, United States District Attorney. The event took place about four o'clock this morning. It is not meet that I on this occasion to go into anything like eulogium on the character of the deceased. That will be done by the Honor, while yet in his early manhood, not being over forty-three or forty-four years of age, and before he came into our midst, he had attained a very high standing at the bar, and was recognized throughout the State as one of the leading lawyers of the State. Since his residence among us, holding the office of United States District Attorney, by his industry and ability, great professional zeal and learning he has added to his reputation and has ... recognized, not only here, but throughout the State, as a gentleman of ... and ... abilities, and it is only ... it seems to me, in view of the official position which he held, in view of the character he maintained in that position, for the community knew that he was regarded by the Attorney General as one of the most efficient attorneys in the United States, it is only proper that this court should make some minute of his death and adjourn out of respect to his memory. At the close of these remarks this court adjourned.

In the Common Pleas, before Judge Collier, C. B. Fetterman, Esq., made the announcement in an address of eulogium. The Hon. Thomas Ewing, in answer to Robert Woods, Esq., who remarked that, as a lawyer, and ex-officio as United States Attorney, Mr. Swoope stood at the head of his profession, what more could have been said? Hon. Thos. M. Marshall followed in a speech eulogistic of the literary and legal acquirements of the deceased, and expressive of sincere sorrow at his untimely death. Judge Collier expressed his regret at the death of Mr. Swoope, and adjourned the court.

Mr. Swarzwelder also announced the death of Mr. Swoope in Judge Stowe's branch of the Common Pleas, and that court also adjourned.

MR. SWOOPE'S LAST HOURS.

The "Leader" gives the following account of the last hours of the deceased: For the last two or three days he sank rapidly, and early last night his physician, Dr. King, who was in attendance upon him almost constantly, informed his patient that he was at death's door. Mr. Swoope, who all the time retained his full mental faculties, said was able to converse, called one of the clerks of his office, Thos. Wasson, to his bedside, about midnight, and asked him if he thought his condition was dangerous. The clerk nodded an assent, and then for the first time apparently the patient realized his true condition. His wife and family and a married sister were at his bedside, and with them he conversed at intervals. Toward the last his voice commenced to break. He complained of a heavy oppression on his chest, and said "if that could only be removed he would be all right." After midnight he asked Dr. King again if he was going to die. The physician informed him that there was no possible hope of his recovery. Then said Mr. Swoope, "I have no money of my own, and I commit myself and my family to God." Again he said: "I have made my peace with my God through the Lord Jesus Christ." At 3:15 A. M. he breathed very faintly, and at 3:45 died.

Mr. Swoope was scarcely forty-three years of age at the time of his death. He leaves a wife and three children—one a boy of eighteen years, another boy of thirteen and a little girl of eight.

He requested, before his death, that his body be taken to Clearfield, Pa., (his former home) for burial. His aged mother and married sister reside at Clearfield, where two children of the deceased are buried.

LIST OF PATENTS.

Issued from the United States Patent Office to the Citizens of the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Following is the list of patents issued from the United States Patent office to citizens of the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio, for the week ending February 12, 1874, and furnished for the COMMERCIAL from the office of J. McC. Perkins & Co., counsellors at law and solicitors for American and foreign patents, Washington, D. C.:

PENNSYLVANIA.

Device for Converting Motion—Henry E. Marchand, Pittsburgh. Application filed January 14, 1874.

Fire Place—Adam Wynne, Indiana. Application filed January 5, 1874.

Metal Drilling Machine—Milton Love, Corry. Application filed December 9, 1873.

Fringing Machine—William H. Wright, Chester. Application filed December 16, 1873.

Sash Holder—John X. Miller, Chester. Application filed December 20, 1873.

Reed Organ—Silas Burdett, Erie. Application filed December 18, 1873.

Child's Chair—Jerome F. Downing, Erie. Application filed August 9, 1873.

Lady's Sewing Chair—Jerome F. Downing, Erie. Application filed August 9, 1873.

Tanning Process—Joseph Anderson, Mount Pleasant. Application filed May 19, 1873.

Car Coupling—Salathiel J. Griest, Gettysburg. Application filed December 22, 1873.

Toy Building Block—Charles M. Crandall, Montrose. Application filed November 10, 1873.

OHIO.

Wrought Iron Bridge—W. R. Laird, Canton. Gear Button for Floor Packers—L. Crevelling, Akron.

Iron Fence—D. C. Guttridge and A. Bolander, Akron.

Throttle Valve—B. F. Wilson, Salem.

Balanced Slide Valve for Steam Engines—O. Kinsel, Cleveland.

Eaves Trough Hanger—J. P. Abbott, Cleveland.

Thill Coupling—S. Bippers, Dayton.

Foot and Shoe—J. McMillin, Ripley.

THE WESTERN PENITENTIARY.

Forty-seventh Annual Report—Interesting Prison Statistics.

We have before us the forty-seventh annual report of the Board of Prison Inspectors of the Western Penitentiary. The report opens with the declaration that the criminal population of the United States, in confinement, is estimated at 40,000, and then enters upon a discussion of the best methods of managing this large class. The system of "solitary confinement," which has been vaulted in this State so long is characterized as entirely wrong, and the Board has entered upon the plan of making the convicts support themselves as far as possible. The Board says:

We have made decided progress this year in the congregate work of the shops. Three of these are now in successful operation. In the cigar shop, which is operated by the officers of the institution, there are eighty men employed on task work, and they have turned out, ready for market, as many as ten thousand cigars per day, and of such a quality as to find a ready and constantly extending market.

The great and crowning feature of our success, however, in this department of labor, is found in the two shops for the manufacture of shoes. These are under the management and control of Messrs. W. E. Schmertz & Co., of the city of Pittsburgh, contractors. With these gentlemen we have made an arrangement for a per diem allowance for the labor of the prisoners employed, at a price which is satisfactory and remunerative. They have introduced the most improved sewing machinery, and turn out work equal to any of a similar character made in the United States; these shops are as large as we could wish. Not more than eighty-five men can be employed in both; but with this small force and restricted room, they are turning out between four and five hundred pairs of finished shoes per day.

The task under the old *regime* was from four to six pairs of shoes per week for each man. Now eighty-five men are earning more money for the State than four hundred would have done heretofore in any one year. We wish to enlarge this branch of business, and make it hereafter the *specialty* of the Western Penitentiary. In order to do this, however, we must have more shop room. We have the ground unoccupied, and need merely a plain brick building, sufficiently large to accommodate all our remaining, and now unoccupied prisoners. The cost of the building will be a mere bagatelle, and the amount we ask to be appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose would be returned in one year, out of the profits of the labor of prisoners who are now comparatively idle.

THE REMOVAL.

The question of the removal of the Western Penitentiary to some other location, at present, we think, is at rest. The Commission appointed by the Legislature to look into this matter had several meetings, but adjourned without having arrived at any definite unanimity of purpose.

THE APPROPRIATIONS.

The appropriations asked of the Legislature for the coming year are as follows:

Salaries of officers	$21,350
Repairs to building	2,500
Steam pipes, Block A	2,000
Warehouse building	15,000
Library	500
	$41,350

THE WARDEN'S REPORT.

Warden Wright reports the population as follows:

We commenced the year with	461
Received during the year with	172
Total population	633
Discharged by expiration of sentence	151
Discharged by commutation of sentence	1
Discharged by pardon	22
Discharged by order of Court	7
Discharged by death	7
	190

Leaving in confinement January 1st, 1874 . . . 443

Of those received during the year, there were: White males, 151; white females, 2; mulatto males, 11; mulatto female, 1; black males, 9; total, 172.

MANUFACTURES.

The cigar department has been greatly enlarged. Eighty men are now employed. The production of the year being 1,687,000 cigars, or 300 per cent. more than in 1872.

In the Weaving Department the sales of goods have been limited in quantity, and unsatisfactory in the prices realized. A new style of striped goods and checks, manufactured with the advantages of steam power, having almost superseded our previous made checks in this market. For these reasons the looms were removed from one block, and the prisoners therein transferred to other labor.

The shirt factory has become completely prostrated that other looms have since been left idle until trade shall improve. The yield for the year is only 85,570 yards of all the fabrics manufactured; being 44,110 yards less than last year.

It is not probable that hand loom weaving in the cells can ever again be a since sful business, except with immense additions of money assessing the advantages of improved machinery, division of labor and large capital. It is confessedly unprofitable, and for that and other reasons of a moral and financial character, I trust it may never become necessary to return to it as a leading branch of labor in this institution.

INSTRUCTION.

The Warden says: In addition to the judicious effects of steady habits, roused into healthful activity by well directed labor, religious and secular education has been wisely called to aid in the struggle with crime.

The various religious services in the Chapel and Sabbath School have been faithfully and regularly held. On the part of the prisoners there has always been careful and at times profound attention. Our Sabbath School is very interesting, much of its success being due to the faithful band of teachers, who for so long rendered their valuable services. The Day School, in which we have a competent teacher, is an important addition to the other elements at work in the system of reform.

Shoemaking in the cells is not a remunerative business, and for many years "the gain has not been in the instruction in economy" but to the convict as a relief to fill up the measure of his time." In the belief that the tedium of separate confinement could be changed for the better, certain additional improvements have been gradually made. But it was only a few months ago that the Board decided to make an important change in the prison labor.

In April last, the Board instructed that the prisoners hitherto engaged at shoemaking in the cells should be transferred to shops as rapidly as arrangements could be made. Under these arrangements eighty-five men are now employed at shoemaking in shops. For their use the penitentiary receives fifty cents per man. If suitable shop room were available, the same parties could speedily furnish employment for many others.

GENERAL RESULTS.

Owing to the depression in trade and the transitional condition of the prison, the financial returns are not as great as they have been favorably situated as to facilities for, or character of employment.

In every other aspect the results are of a more favorable character; the good conduct of the prisoners generally: excellent progress in the several shops, and good reports from many discharged prisoners, give ample assurance of the correctness of the principles which have guided us to advocate and ultimately secure an ameliorated discipline.

SANITARY.

Dr. Rankin reports seven deaths during the year, but the general health of the inmates has been good.

During the year there were six cases of the various forms of insanity in the prison, who were all, with one exception, sent to the asylum; one condition: five of them were so far gone as to be entirely incapable of engaging in any kind of employment. two were under treatment in the hospital at the present date, being totally unable to take care of themselves; the other four were not so completely mentally incapacitated, but were able to take some care of themselves in their cells.

THE CONFIDENCE GAME REVIVED.

Three Unsuspecting Gentlemen Fleeced Out of $599.

The nefarious business of playing on men's kindness and credulity for the purpose of fleecing them out of their money, has again been revived in our city. The rascals who carry on this business, know to a confidence operation, when it is reasonably successful in playing their little games on Monday night and yesterday morning. They succeeded in cheating three men out of $599. The first gentleman, named Buxley, met a former friend at the Union Depot, on Monday night, who asked him to help carry a trunk, which he did. When the party with the trunk had reached the elevator building they were stopped by an agent, who demanded seventy-nine dollars charges on the trunk. The owner of the trunk hadn't the amount of money with him, but if his new friend would loan it to him till he could go across the street, it would be returned. Now the new friend was left with the trunk, and he is still waiting, although satisfied that he is swindled out of seventy-nine dollars.

The second gentleman fleeced was H. B. Ambrose, from Port Clinton, O. Yesterday morning a stranger who appeared to be lame asked him to assist himself and family aboard the train. Mr. Ambrose was about to do so, when a freight agent stepped up and demanded $1 for the lame man. He had nothing but a check on the Third National Bank for $900, payable to "James Williams." If Mr. Ambrose would take the check and give his friend the amount, he would save him a world of trouble. Mr. A. did so, and he is now satisfied that he has lost money to the amount of $220. James Felix, of Cleveland, was the third victim. Yesterday morning, at the Monongahela House, he formed the acquaintance of Mr. James Williams, of Sandusky. During a pleasant conversation that the gentlemen were engaged in, that same freight agent came along and insisted upon Mr. Felix settling that bill immediately. Mr. Felix offered the freight agent a check for $900 on the Silver Mining Company of Colorado. The freight agent would not accept, and then Mr. F. was compelled to borrow $220 from his dear friend Mr. Williams, and handed the latter the check which he held as security. Then Mr. Felix went up to his room in the hotel, and asked Mr. Williams to wait for him. Mr. W. did wait, but after several hours he got tired, and then he went to the office and ascertained that Mr. Felix was not lodging there-nor had he been. Now the detectives are actively engaged in looking for Mr. Felix and his accomplice, but thus far Mr. F. has not been seen.

THE COUNTY VALUATIONS.

Real Estate Assessments Increased from $44,000,000 to $352,000,000.

We learn from Mr. Beckert, County Commissioner, that under the recent efforts to raise the county valuations to something approaching a cash basis, the following result has been attained, compared with the previous year:

County valuation, 1873	$ 44,000,000
County valuation, 1874	352,000,000
Increase over 1873	$308,000,000
Mills levied in 1873	12
Mills levied in 1874	1¼

The assessment of personal property will show a proportionate increase.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 18, 1874.

The *Financial Chronicle*, in a review of the monetary situation, expresses the opinion that the condition of affairs is not as satisfactory as the surface would indicate. Thoughtless persons are apt to say that monetary panics only come every ten or fifteen years, and that therefore we are safe for a long time to come, do what we will. As long as we are doing business on the basis of an irredeemable currency, we are in danger of a recurrence of the evils caused by that currency in its uncertainty of value and redundancy in amount.

The panic of last September, we contend, was caused by there being *too much* currency, although when the actual scare began it might have been stayed by the prompt issue of a supply of bank notes by the Treasury Department. Yet it was the redundancy of the currency in circulation which fostered speculation, caused the projection of railroad enterprises that the country did not need, led to excessive borrowing on the part of business men, and excessive lending on the part of banks, overstrained the credit of the country, and this when one house had to close its doors, the condition of business generally was such that the whole system was shaken to its very foundation. With the same conditions still existing, although not so greatly intensified, and the probability that we will have the usual stringency next fall we have had for each recurring year, is it not the part of cautious bankers to look to the future and prepare? Of the precautions which should be taken, the *Chronicle* says:

"The proper precautions are three. The banks must enlarge their resources by keeping up public confidence in their conservative management. They are now in danger, some of them, of impairing that confidence by lending too recklessly. Secondly, our banks must economize their resources by lending only to good men. They must not trust the capital of their depositors to bad borrowers on fictitious paper. Still less must they lend on stocks at inflated values, or help to blow up the bubble of speculation which at some inopportune moment is sure to burst. Lastly, they must not be afraid of heaping up their reserves. If the country bank notes are troublesome, these bank notes can be sent home. The elasticity of the great system of the money market is too important a public need to be put in jeopardy for want of a little sacrifice and a little good management on the part of the banks. Such sacrifices and such management are the conditions on which the banks hold the valuable franchises confined to them for the general good."

—A Washington correspondent thus writes of financial affairs at the capital:

"In the Senate the policy of precontination, heretofore exposed, as relates to the financial problem, was pursued by the 'hard cash' or anti-inflationists during the whole of to-day. It was understood a vote could no longer be deferred than this afternoon, but as the light waxed warm toward the last of the session, a change of tactics was carried out by this scientific and manœuvring body. The white flag was sent up, and one thing stopped along the line, an armistice being declared, a recess was ordered, as Logan pithily termed it, with muffled drums, for the relief of the forces, which, we were to use an Army of the Potomac saw, 'retired in good order.' Senator Cameron opened the ball by offering his substitute, which authorizes general banking without any restrictions. He announced his measure earnestly, as affording the compromise method to bring the two sections, North and West and reconcile the various discentient views of Senators.

"A poll of the Senate warrants the belief that a free banking law will prevail in the Senate, and the soonest this result is obtained, it is remarked here by financiers, the better it will be for the country and the Senate, the former being regarded as bound hand and foot by the present views. The session will last two days longer, it is thought, when the expansionist combination will move a final vote, which, with a full working Senate, will be carried by it.

"Mr. Maynard, Chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee, re-ntently pressed the House to-day to set the time for the consideration of bills to amend the National Currency act and to establish free banking. Mr. Kasson objected, the time was lost, 141 voting in the affirmative and 93 in the negative. The House is bent upon disposing of the legal tender question before it adjourns, and there is in endless debate on the Currency act. The action of the House indicates a readiness to dispose of the legal tender question, causing much rejoicing among the New York members, who are anxious that the so-called inflation question may be speedily settled, and the mercantile and money-ed interests spared further agitation on the uncertainty of the financial administration of the Treasury Department."

—The following tables show the prices of gold, government bonds, and railway stocks, at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Luther S. Kauffman, broker, 99 Fourth avenue:

	Opened.	Closed.
Gold	112⅝	112⅝
U. S. 6s, 1881, coupons	120½	120½
5 20s, 1862	118	118¼
5 20s, 1864	119	119¼
5 20s, 1865	120½	120½
5 20s, July	119¾	119¾
5 20s, 1867	120	120¼
5 20s, 1868	119½	119½
10-40s	112¾	112½
Currency 6s	118½	118½
U. S. 5s, 1881	113⅛	113¼

February 18, 1874.	10:20 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Western Union Tel'g'h	72½	72¾	73¼	73⅝	73⅝
Pacific Mail	37⅛	37⅜	37⅝	37⅝	37⅝
Adams Express	94	94	94	94	94
Wells-Fargo Express	91	91	91	91	91
Hamilton Express	51	51	51	51	51
United States Express	74½	74½	74½	74½	74½
New York Central	104½	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾
Erie	20	20	20	20	20
Michigan Central	91	91	91	91	91
Michigan Southern	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½
Illinois Central	107	107½	107½	107½	107½
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	98	98	98	98	98
Chicago & Northwestern	86¾	86¾	86¾	86¾	86¾
Chicago & Rock Island	111	111	111	111	111
Rock Island	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½
Pittsburgh	84	84	84	84	84
Do Preferred	91	91½	91½	91½	91½
Fort Wayne	91	91½	91½	91½	91½
Ohio and Mississippi	22¾	23	23	23	23
Union Pacific	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Chicago and Alton	93	93	93	93	93
Boston, Hartford & Erie	2⅜	2⅜	2⅜	2⅜	2⅜
Harlem	131½	131½	131½	131½	131½

—Robinson & Co., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R. R.	51¾
Penna. Scrip	97¾
Reading	39¾
United Co.'s N. J.	136½
Oil Creek	17¾
Lehigh Valley	57⅞
A. V. R. R. 7-30	92
Central Transportation	43¾
Empire Transportation	50¾
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis	79

GLASS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 19, 1874. }

PER BOX OF FIFTY FEET—SINGLE STRENGTH.

Quality.	1st glass.	2d glass.	3d glass.
6 by 8 to 7 by 9	$5 75		$8 00
7 by 10 to 10 by 12	6 00	6 75	9 00
8 by 11 to 10 by 13	6 50	7 50	10 00
8 by 14 to 10 by 15	7 25	8 00	12 00
11 by 14 to 11 by 17		9 00	13 00
12 by 18 to 16 by 20		9 25	16 00
14 by 22 to 16 by 24		10 00	18 00
15 by 22 to 17 by 26		11 00	20 00
20 by 28 to 24 by 30		13 00	21 00
26 by 28 to 24 by 36		14 00	24 00
26 by 34 to 26 by 40		15 00	26 00
28 by 38 to 28 by 44		16 00	28 00
28 by 46 to 30 by 48			30 00
30 by 50 to 32 by 52			30 00
28 by 54 to 30 by 60			40 00
30 by 58 to 34 by 60			45 00
36 by 60 to 40 by 60			45 00

All orders received after this date will be charged at these prices. Orders taken by agents are subject to approval of manufacturers when received. Discount of 60@65 per cent. allowed.

LAMP CHIMNEYS, X L.C.B. BRAND.

	Per doz.
Sun No. 0, straight or bulb	$ 85
Sun No. 1, straight or bulb, 4 oz	90
Sun No. 1, straight or bulb, nail drivers or 7 oz.	1 00
Sun No. 2, straight or bulb	85
Excelsior Sun Hinge No. 0	85
Excelsior Sun Hinge No. 1, 4 oz	90
Excelsior Sun Hinge No. 2	1 25
Old Style No. 0, round or fire proof	85
Old Style No. 1, round or fire proof	90
Old Style No. 1, round or fire proof, short	90
Old Style No. 1, round or fire proof, nail drivers	1 00
Old Style No. 2, round or fire proof	1 25
Old Style No. 2, round or fire proof, short	1 25
Old Style No. 2, round or fire proof, nail drivers	1 50
Old Style No. 3, round or fire proof	1 90
Light House	1 90
Sewer	1 00
Locomotive Head Light Chimney, net	2 50
Solar or Lard Oil Chimney, net	1 00
Gas Chimney	1 00
Orient or Student Lamp Chimney	1 00

WROUGHT IRON WELDED TUBES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 19, 1874. }

Manufacturers' revised price list of wrought iron pipe, adopted September 9, 1873:

Inside diameter. Inches.	Plain pipe. Per foot.	Galvanized pipe. Per foot.	Weight of pipe. Per foot.
BUTT WELDED.			
⅛	10	22	24
¼	10	22	42
⅜	12	22	56
½	15	24	85
¾	20	32	1 12
1	29	45	1 67
1¼	39	60	2 25
1½	50	85	2 69
LAP WELDED.			
2	70	1 15	3 66
2½	1 10	1 80	5 71
3	1 50	2 30	7 54
3½	1 75	2 90	9 05
4	2 00	3 50	10 72
4½	2 75	4 00	12 49
5	3 50	4 50	14 56
6	4 50	6 00	18 77
7	6 00		25 41
8	7 00		28 85
9	10 00		
10	13 00		40 64

TIN PLATES, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 19, 1874. }

I C, 10x14, charcoal	$12 00
I X, 10x14, charcoal	14 75
I C, 12x12, charcoal	12 50
I X, 12x12, charcoal	14 50
I C, 14x20, charcoal	13 00
I X, 14x20, charcoal	15 00
I C, 14x20, loaded	11 50
I X, 14x20, loaded	13 75

According to quality and quantity prices would vary less.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, February 18.—Flour dull but unchanged. Wheat dull; No 1 red $1 56@1 57; No 2 $1 45. Corn quiet; old mixed 69c@70c; new 65@66c; low mixed 67c. Oats steady; State 42c.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, } TUESDAY, February 18, 1874. }

REMARKS—The smoke of the late political battle has cleared away, the sun shines brightly, and the world moves as usual, from which we are led to infer that the "country is safe."

We are at a loss what to say with regard to the market, taken as a whole. In some departments of trade there is a good degree of activity, while in others the reverse is the case. It is not in our province to speculate as to the cause or causes leading to these results. Business men fully understand and appreciate the situation of affairs, and when the proper time comes will act accordingly.

The produce trade may be quoted fairly active and about up to the average ruling at this season of the year.

The supply of butter is now nearly if not quite up with the demand, and prices tend to lower figures.

Cheese has made another advance movement, as will be seen by quotations given below.

The flour market remains unchanged, a limited trade being transacted, at the reduced rates, buyers, perhaps, looking for still lower rates.

Grain, though not quotably lower, is a shade weaker, but holders are firm in their views, and will not make concessions to effect sales.

The grocery market is reported slow, not to say dull, though a moderate home and country demand is reported.

Hay is reported dull both from wagon and on track and unchanged, the price being governed by quality and condition.

Potatoes are in fair supply, and sales are made at figures a shade lower.

The provision market remains quiet and unchanged at our quotations of yesterday. Trade is reported fair for the season. Stocks are ample and of the choicest descriptions, cured with a view to meet the wants of this market.

The season for packing is at hand, which causes much activity for clover and timothy seed.

Cement is in fair demand, and regular sales are made at the quotations we furnish below, which, it will be observed, show some slight changes in prices.

The canned goods trade is more active, and houses in possession of choice goods find no difficulty in disposing of them at quotations.

Dried fruits is held firmly, and not the slightest concession will be made by holders to effect sales, holding, as they do that prices must go up before the new crop can come upon the market.

We must not omit to mention the important fact that the rivers are in good boating order, and that steamers arrive and depart daily.

Below will be found the receipts of produce for the past twenty-four hours:

Flour, bbls	2,942	Apples, bbls	193
Butter, lbs	550	Barley, sks	111
Rye, sks	653	Oats, sks	1,225
Corn, sks	36	Baconl pcs	1,100
Wheat, sks	644	Bacon, tcs	117
Potatoes, bush	1,768		

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	9,975	9,337	19,312
Apples, bbls	765	1,276	2,041
Cheese, boxes	67	12	79
Corn, sacks	7,386	5,873	13,259
Oats, sacks	7,334	4,967	12,301
Barley, sacks	4,839	3,938	8,777
Rye, sacks	2,432	2,835	5,267
Hay, tons	1,128	906	1,945
Butter, pkgs	267	374	649
Bacon, pcs	10,220	8,400	18,620
Bacon, tcs	379	598	977

Below will be found the wholesale prices of the market, unless otherwise noted:

Ayrshires, per 2 lbs@3 50 ₱ bbl; oice $4 00@4 50; the latter figure an extreme.

APPLES—Green @2 50@3 50 ₱ bbl; dried $4 00@4 50; the latter figure an extreme.

ASHES—Soda ash, common 3½@4c; refined, 5c; potash, 9c; pearl, 10c; arsenic, 5c; black lead 5c.

BEANS—Prime, $1 90@2 00 ₱ bu.

BUTTER AND PROVISION—The following are the latest revised quotations at which sales are made: Hams, sugar cured extra, 14c; Hams, sugar cured ₱ lb, 13½c; bacon shoulders ₱ lb, 9½c; bacon sides, sugar cured, 12½c; bacon rumps, beef, extra sugar cured ₱ lb, 16½c; bacon clear ribs, sides 9½c ₱ lb; bacon clear sides, 12½c ₱ lb; sides of bacon, 11½c ₱ lb; plain sausage, 10c; clear pork, in 3 lb tin pails, 13½c; refined do in 5 lb pails, 15½c; refined do in 10 lb pails, 14½c; smoked do in 5 lb cannisters, 16½c; breakfast do in 5 lb cannisters, 16½c ₱ lb, 12½c.

BUTTER—Supply and demand increase. We quote choice table at 35@38c ₱ lb; prime to choice 30@33c; fair to prime 26@28c; common to fair 12@16c.

CHEESE—Choice is scarce at 20@21c ₱ lb.

BROOM CORN—Sales of red and red topped at 5½@6c; fair to good green 5@5½c; hurl 3½@4½c ₱ lb.

BEANS—Prime quoted at $2 ₱ bu.

BRAN—$1 ₱ 100 lbs.

BROOMS—Sales at $2 ₱ doz; $2 50 ₱ doz; for 4 sewed; $2 75@3 ₱ doz; for 5 sewed; $3 50@4 ₱ doz; for 6 sewed; $4 50@5 ₱ doz; for 7 sewed; $5 50@6 ₱ doz; for 8 sewed; $6 50@7 ₱ doz; for 9 sewed; $7 50@8 ₱ doz; for 10 sewed; $8 50@9 ₱ doz; for 11 sewed; $9 50@10 ₱ doz; for 12 sewed; $10 50@11 ₱ doz; for 13 sewed; $11 50@12 ₱ doz; for 14 sewed; $12 50@13 ₱ doz; for 15 sewed; $13 50@14 ₱ doz; for 16 sewed; $14 50@15 ₱ doz; for 17 sewed; $15 50@16 ₱ doz; for 18 sewed; $16 50@17 ₱ doz; for 19 sewed; $17 50@18 ₱ doz; for 20 sewed; $18 50@19 ₱ doz; for 21 sewed; $19 50@20 ₱ doz; for 22 sewed; $20 50@21 ₱ doz; for 23 sewed; $21 50@22 ₱ doz; for 24 sewed; $22 50@23 ₱ doz; for 25 sewed; $23 50@24 ₱ doz; for 26 sewed; $24 50@25 ₱ doz; for 27 sewed; $25 50@26 ₱ doz; for 28 sewed; $26 50@27 ₱ doz; for 29 sewed; $27 50@28 ₱ doz; for 30 sewed; $28 50@29 ₱ doz; for 31 sewed; $29 50@30 ₱ doz; for 32 sewed; $30 50@31 ₱ doz; for 33 sewed; $31 50@32 ₱ doz; for 34 sewed; $32 50@33 ₱ doz; for 35 sewed; $33 50@34 ₱ doz; for 36 sewed; $34 50@35 ₱ doz; for 37 sewed; $35 50@36 ₱ doz; for 38 sewed; $36 50@37 ₱ doz; for 39 sewed; $37 50@38 ₱ doz; for 40 sewed; $38 50@39 ₱ doz; for 41 sewed; $39

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1874.

Wanted.

WEEKLY COMMERCIALS of the following dates to complete our files: February 24th, July 13th and September 28th 1872, and March 1st, 1873.

ALTHOUGH the next Presidential election is nearly three years off, there are politicians already in the field canvassing the subject of candidates, and the claims of five or six men are gravely discussed. This is taking time by the forelock, with a vengeance.

THERE is actual famine in New York. The tales of suffering among the unemployed poor, which the journals are publishing from day to day, almost exceed belief, but it is very pleasant to note how quick is the response of the benevolent to the accompanying appeals for relief.

THE imports of foreign dry goods at the port of New York for last week were $3,969,113 and the amount marketed $4,032,157. The imports for the corresponding period of last year were $5,093,845, and for 1872 $4,454,783. For the first half of the current fiscal year the balance of trade with foreign countries has been greatly in favor of our own, the excess of exports over imports, even reckoning the former at their gold value, being upwards of fifty millions of dollars.

THE calculations upon the extent of the current cotton crop begin to excite unusual interest, because the receipts at the ports, thus far, are not only in excess, by some 317,000 bales, of the last crop, but in excess also of what is called the great crop of 1870-71 by 150,000 bales. In view of the fact that there is at present nearly 100,000 bales in excess at the interior markets over last year, it is estimated that the crop will nearly or quite equal that of 1870-71, or four and a quarter millions of bales.

THE Republicans of Texas are considering a plan to divide that State into two States—Western and Western Texas—making a Republican and Democratic State. In the terms of the annexation of Texas to the United States, it was provided that the State might, under certain conditions, be divided into not exceeding three States, and it is not improbable that, in view of its extraordinary extent of territory and the divergent interests of the people, Congress may presently take some action in the matter.

NOW THAT the Georgia Bourbons have obtained about all the favors they wanted of the general government, they are calling upon the Legislature of that State to lower the United States flag from the Capitol. Perhaps they had better comply. Certainly it is no honor to the flag to float over a Democratic State Capitol whose Legislative and Executive departments have just dishonored the country by repudiating $3,382,000 of its straight State bonds, and $4,475,000 of railroad bonds indorsed by the State.

EX-PRESIDENT JOHNSON comes to the surface again as a self-announced candidate for Congress from the First district of Tennessee. If the people of that section—who are now making very encouraging progress in moral, intellectual and material civilization—are awake to their best interests in these respects, they will elect him to remain at home. He has served his country sufficiently long already; at least the quality of such service has not been of a kind calculated to make the country hanker for more of it.

THE shipbuilding interests—iron and wooden alike—promise to be more active during the coming season than at any period since the war. Reports from Maine are to the effect that all the shipyards along the coast are alive with activity and enterprise. Similar reports come from all points on the lakes, while in the famous Chester region in our own State the incessant clang of hammers and clanking of rivets goes on, making prosperity-giving, labor-supplying, business-producing music, all the while. And these great songs of triumphant labor are the noblest anthems that were ever born.

ONE of the members of the Missouri Legislature, who has probably had enough of lawmaking for one session, and wants to return to the bosom of his constituents as speedily as possible, has hit upon a novel method of bringing about an adjournment of the distinguished body to which he belongs—in the shape of a bill to punish legislators by heavy fine and imprisonment for being found drunk during the session. There is no likelihood of its passage, however. Missouri Democracy does not purpose to suffer its constitutional privileges and prerogatives to be infringed in any such tyrannical way.

CONGRESSMAN VANCE, of North Carolina, has addressed a letter to the New York *Herald* complaining of misrepresentation on the part of the Washington correspondent of that paper. He says he means that he has not, in Congress or elsewhere, "declared himself ready for another rebellion;" but that he said "distinctly and plainly," that "under the same circumstances we"—*i. e.* the Southern people—"would do so again." It is really too bad that so fine a casuist should be so grossly misapprehended. And now perhaps MR. VANCE will be kind enough to draw the exact line of distinction between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

IN INVENTIVE ingenuity, as in railroads and telegraphs, our country leads the world. The Philadelphia *North American* collates the statistics of the British Patent Office for the year 1872, from which it appears that the number of applications made to the principal governments of the world for patents in the year 1872 was: In the United States, 18,243; all other countries, 14,072. After us the highest number of applications were: In France, 4,872; Great Britain, 3,970; Belgium, 1,921; Austria, 922; and so on down the list; France, Great Britain and Belgium being apparently about the only countries of Europe that attempt to do justice to the inventor.

THE depths of personal degradation to which some men will descend for the sake of political preferment, is most strikingly illustrated by the confession of ex-Senator NORTON, of New York, who says he never received the slightest pecuniary consideration for signing the fraudulent ring documents, and only signed them when he became a candidate for the State Senate, because he did not dare to incur the ill-will of TWEED, CONNOLLY and the other ring thieves who were constantly urging him to put his name to the paper. Were the whole truth known, it probably would be found that TWEED exacted signatures by similar intimidation from many other officials.

IN THE course of some observations concerning the probable extent of the current cotton crop, we stated, in last Friday's COMMERCIAL, that the receipts at the ports thus far had been 317,000 bales in excess of the last crop. A New York correspondent, who is thoroughly acquainted with the subject of which he writes, informs us that we are 363,000 bales ahead of last year, and that, as compared with 1871, the excess this year up to date is not, as we stated, 150,000 bales, but, adding four days which we are behind that year in date, nearly 240,000 bales over, and that if for the balance of the season the receipts are equal to that year, we shall have a total crop of about 4,580,000 bales, instead of four and a quarter millions, as estimated by us.

IN QUITE a number of the various State Legislatures now in session, the question of compulsory education is, we notice, undergoing earnest consideration and discussion. We do not concur in the fashionable opinion that the perpetuity of our republican institutions depends upon compelling children to learn to read and write, but, rather, upon the free will and intelligence of the whole people, which recognizes the duty to giving children a good education, and sufficient instruction to exercise the right of franchise intelligently. This duty cannot, and should not be enforced by compulsory laws, however. If that is done the whole structure of our government, theoretically at least, falls to pieces.

A SOMEWHAT important Internal Revenue law decision was on Saturday last rendered in the United States Circuit Court of New York. The two questions which arose on the facts were: First—When the taxpayer has made a correct return and the assessor has made an erroneous assessment thereon, which assessment has been paid, has the assessor, under the law, power to make a supplementary assessment? Second—Is the reassessment presumed to be correct without affirmative proof on the part of the government that there was an error in the original assessment? The court decided the first point in the affirmative, provided the assessor makes the supplementary assessment within the time (fifteen months) stated in the ninth section of the act of July 13, 1866. The second question was determined in the negative.

SOUTH CAROLINA papers aver that the determination of the whites of that State to overcome the existing predominance of the colored element by the introduction of immigrants is fixed and unalterable. A large number of foreigners, it is said, have already been brought into the State, while orders for many more, accompanied with cash to pay transportation, have been sent to New York. We hope South Carolina may get all the white immigrants she needs and treat them well when she gets them. But in view of the heavy transportation expenses incurred by the promoters of this movement, what are we to think of the mournful and multitudinous complaints of poverty, distress and financial ruin which have been so incessantly dinned into our ears by this class for the last five or six years? There is evidently a "mistake" somewhere.

THE GRANGERS.

At the late meeting in St. Louis of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, thirty-two State Granges, two Territorial Granges, and one Provincial Grange, were represented. The last is Canadian, and exists at Quebec. In this representation were comprehended not less than twelve thousand single lodges, a fact which indicates the swiftly increasing dimensions and importance of the order. When the National Grange assembled about a year ago, it embraced only nine State Granges with thirteen hundred lodges. Perhaps it would not be possible to find another instance of equally rapid extension of an organization having fixed rules for the admission of members, and exacting fees as conditions preliminary to initiation. Whatever else the phenomenon may or may not imply, it unquestionably indicates both the genuineness and the wide prevalence of the sentiment in which the movement has its origin.

It is, however, not necessary to suppose that the views and plans of the originators were very clear or definite in the beginning. They felt that their condition as farmers was very unsatisfactory, exposing them to certain wrongs and oppressions from which they hoped to deliver themselves by means of organization. Perhaps to a majority the railroad companies seemed an embodiment of all the injuries which they most keenly felt, and hence the prominence given to the railroad question in the early proceedings of the Granges. Political adventurers, hoping to seize and use the farmers' organization for the promotion of their own ends, succeeded for a while in mystifying the Grangers and in confusing their thoughts and efforts. In fact, the farmers themselves were laboring under numerous illusions, defective knowledge and mistaken theories, which exposed them to the wiles and machinations of false friends as well as of open enemies. Time and experience were necessary to teach them what should be the limitation as well as the right direction of their labors in the advancement of their own specific interests and in the cause of reform. As to the good, honest intentions of the Grangers there could be no room for doubt, and yet for the reasons just mentioned, they seemed for a while little likely to justify the hopes which well meant efforts ought to inspire.

Happily there have been signs of late that the Grangers are capable of learning by experience, and that they are willing practically to respect and follow the dictates of superior knowledge and sagacity. The members of the order have evidently profited by the general and just criticism called forth by their acts and utterances. From the address of the Grand Master and from the other proceedings of the National Grange at St. Louis, recently, it is easy to see that the spirit and views of the powerful association have undergone very important modifications in the course of last year, and that the men at present most conspicuous in its management are determined to keep its operations within the limits of sound economical principles and experience, and of well established laws. Referring to the subject of railroad projects, Grand Master ADAMS warns the farmers not to look for relief from the construction of railways by the national government. In the first place, the building of the roads would require many years, during which actual grievances would of course continue, and in the second place, by the proposed remedy the worst abuses now complained of and denounced would be simply increased. Repetitions of credit mobilier frauds, watering of stocks and bribing of Legislatures on a gigantic scale would be the inevitable results of the system. The most likely cure for the railway extortion from which farmers suffer, the Grand Master thinks, may be found in the regulation of rates by Congress and the State Legislatures. He, however, indulges in no sanguine hopes on the subject, being well aware of the very powerful and peculiar resistance in the serene legislative mind which must be overcome before adequate action in the interest can be procured. Still, he thinks, there is no reason for despair, as the people, if really resolved, cannot fail to carry their point. The interesting feature of the suggestion is the remarkable contrast it presents to the wild, romantic talk of the Grangers' chief representative only a few months ago.

In reference to the object or purpose of the order, the Grand Master insists on the recognition of the non-political and chiefly social character of the organization, and this view is fully sustained by the other proceedings of the meeting, if the word social be understood in a somewhat comprehensive sense. The order, a secret one for reasons of utility, consists exclusively of persons truly representing the agricultural interest, and with the interest of agriculture, first and before all, the institution is concerned. But neither the word interest nor the word agriculture is used in any narrow meaning. Hence, among the objects of the order, are the ethical and intellectual improvement of the members, and the refinement of their domestic life. Another is to inspire and cultivate love for agricultural pursuits. As subsidiary to these objects, one purpose of the order is to devise and apply means for lessening the necessary expenses of the farmer, whether in living or in carrying on his operations in the country. This statement every one sees to be comprehensive, and indeed to include the entire range of economical contrivances and adjustments by which, in detail, the farmer becomes independent of other classes and rich in the best sense of the term. It includes not only all agricultural improvements and the utmost utilization of the land and of all rural opportunities, but the disuse of the credit system, and the discarding of all those fooleries and fopperies of dress and fashion which make heavier demands than almost any other source of expense, on the purse of the farmer who is blessed with many daughters. Though already implied in the foregoing statement, it is necessary to say that one point to which the Grangers attach the greatest importance in connection with their reform is, as much as possible, to get rid of the class of middlemen or those dealers who stand between producers and consumers. Hence the zeal with which they insist on the necessity of increased facilities for inter-communication, cheap transportation, etc. In a word, hence their war on the railroads. But about that point we need at present only say that, judging by the proceedings at St. Louis, the Grangers now discuss the subject with calmness and rationality.

A MORAL EPIDEMIC.

Doubt can no longer exist as to the importance which the temperance war in Southern Ohio is destined to assume. The conflict already stretches over a very extensive territory, and is daily stretching farther; almost hourly bulletins are issued from the fields of battle; regular correspondents, war correspondents, representing the principal newspapers of the country, are present at vital points and fill many columns, not only with lively details of the struggle, but with elaborate speculations concerning the plans and hopes of the combatants and concerning the probable results of the strategy in particular cases. Hardly an editor in any part of the United States feels that in justice to the edification and wishes of readers, he can afford to neglect the movement, of which, indeed, the people of every where either are or soon will be interested spectators, if not actual participants. For a while, most likely, nobody at a distance from the scene of agitation supposed that it would or could amount to much either in extent or results, it looked so much like a merely local affair and, even as such, comparable rather to a tempest in a teapot than to anything more dignified or momentous. But those who thus contemptuously or indifferently regarded the movement are finely put to shame, and may as well at once renounce any pretension they may have made to sagacity in such matters.

It is, however, perhaps not strange that even those who usually see farthest into mill-stones failed in this instance to anticipate the future. In truth, their failure was inevitable, and implies no disparagement of their sagacity in reference to the ordinary development of human affairs. The justice of this remark will be evident to any one who calls to mind or reflects upon the reasons which, a month ago, would have seemed to warrant confidence in the insignificant and transient character of the Ohio movement. In the first place, the method employed by the women to overpower the liquor sellers, did not appear either to promise success or to yield such results as would encourage perseverance in its use. True enough, prayer is a mighty agency, and there is ample scriptural authority for intercession on the part of devout men and women in behalf of those whom they believe to be in need of their supplications. It is at least a beautiful faith that the fervent prayers of devout mothers, wives and sisters, addressed to heaven in favor of erring sons, husbands or brothers, are sometimes heard and answered in their reformation. Christians have good warrant, also, in praying for their persecutors and for evil doers in general. Except under very extraordinary circumstances, the most zealous Christian, having exercised his [illegible] of secretly praying for the wicked, would hardly think it either expedient or becoming to intercede for his most unrighteous neighbor in the neighbor's presence, at any rate without first getting his consent, or ascertaining whether his mental attitude was such as to justify hopes of spiritual benefit from the act. Every one, we fancy, is familiar with the truth that a different course, the intrusion of unasked for and unwelcome personal intercession is to average human nature perhaps the most exasperating trial to which it can be subjected. Hence, equally in consideration of this effect upon the subject of the prayer and in consideration of the nature of prayer, communion of the soul with its Creator, it could not but appear to many impossible that pious people could long maintain such a crusade as the one referred to. To the persons of whom we speak the proceedings seemed to involve gross profanation of the exercise of prayer. In their ignorance they supposed that for twenty or fifty women to assemble in a bar-room, or on the pavement in front of it, and hour after hour all day to invoke the Divine names in intercession for the proprietor of the place, was to violate most palpably the spirit of the entire teaching of the New Testament on the subject of prayer. If the women look for Divine interposition in answer to their prayers, why do they not meet and pray in secret? If they do not look for Divine interposition against the rumseller or for Divine influence upon his mind, what do they look for? from what source do they expect the power which is to accomplish their desires? If their object is mainly or at all to invoke public sentiment of to frighten the liquor dealer by making him an object of public odium, then it would really seem that their prayers must bear a decided tinge at least of blasphemy; or if that word is too strong, what is it but mockery and vain repetitions of the heathen style to pour out supplications to Jehovah from morning to night when, whatever the desires of the petitioners may be, the only effect produced is to excite the spectators and either alarm the liquor dealer or convince him that for the present he had better destroy his stores or shut up his shop.

Another reason why few if any expected this feminine crusade to go far, or last more than a little while, was doubtless the conceit with which most of us regard the alleged enlightenment of the age. Calling to mind the moral epidemics which used in former ages to seize whole communities, and to rage for months or even years to the confusion of society, we fancied that popular education had relieved us from the possibility of similar frenzies. But the Ohio movement unmistakably indicates the presence of the old delusions still almost as vigorous and contagious as ever. As of old, emotion completely sets reason aside and spurns facts with unutterable scorn. In the old spirit also, passion pleading a higher rule and invoking Divine inspiration and sanction, and caring not at all for after effects if immediate objects can be accomplished, tramples law under foot and calls on all around to applaud its fine proceedings. Strangely enough too, it is permitted to have its way. Not only officers of justice and magistrates allow traffickers whose business is recognized by law and who pay heavy revenues to the government to be driven from their trade, but physicians quietly, perhaps joyfully, submit to the same dictation and sign solemn pledges that they will never prescribe as a medicine an article admitted by all competent authorities to be indispensable in the treatment of certain diseases. We need hardly say that for such frenzies in the long run society and individuals have to settle grievous accounts.

AN ILLUSTRIOUS DUEL IN PROSPECT?

We have already made brief mention of the question of veracity between Prince BISMARCK and the Italian General LA MARMORA. The subject seems destined to assume extraordinary importance. Some readers may have forgotten the origin of the dispute. In the Prussian House of Deputies on the 16th of January, a member, Herr MALLINCKRODT, in the course of a speech, charged the Chancellor with having, before the war of 1866, proposed to cede to France considerable portions of German territory on the Rhine. The offer should have been made through the Italian representative, General GOVONE, and the object of the offer was alleged to be to conciliate France and thus secure its neutrality in the approaching war between Germany and Italy on the one side, and Austria on the other. In reply to this charge, BISMARCK characterized it as an impudent, lying invention, destitute of even a syllable of truth. Never, said the Chancellor, never have I either assured or given any pretext or reason to hope for such a cession as that alleged, not so much as of a village or a clover field. All that has been circulated on the subject is, from first to last, I again declare, an audacious falsehood calculated and forged to injure my character.

MR. MALLINCKRODT was not silenced by this response, but said that the entire charge respecting BISMARCK's willingness to surrender German territory to France rested on the authority of documents contained in a book by General LA MARMORA. This book had, he said, been published in Italy many months ago, and had been translated and widely circulated in Germany. Considering, said the deputy, how easy it would have been to deny officially the correctness of the statement, the fact that no such denial had been made by the statesman implicated, had certainly afforded some foundation for the supposition that the statement was true. However, said the deputy, since the minister pronounces the statement false and mendacious, I simply direct the accusation of having lied to the right address, that is, to the address of General LA MARMORA, President of the Italian Ministry. Let us wait and see whether the General is in a position to furnish proofs of his assertion.

BISMARCK replied that Signor LA MARMORA is no longer either a General or President of the Italian Ministry, but a mere private man, and that the publication by him of documents which had come to his knowledge in the exercise of official functions was an unlawful proceeding. In explanation the Chancellor added that, while the publication referred to was not prohibited by the present Italian law, in consequence of the publication Italians had been brought to recognize the necessity of passing a law making such an offense penal. This he (BISMARCK) had been told in answer to his confidential inquiries. The Chancellor then hurled eloquent scorn at his enemies and detractors, LA MARMORA among the rest, congratulating himself rather than confessing annoyance, that from the Garonne to the Vistula, and from the Baltic to the Tiber, he was the German man most bitterly hated and maligned. Probably to a large majority of the audience the vindication seemed complete and satisfactory, and it was received with great applause.

But this speech did not end the controversy, which has been vigorously maintained in the official press of Berlin. According to the leading newspaper organ of the Chancellor, in consequence of the debate in the chamber of Deputies, General LA MARMORA's little book has been subjected to a careful examination by official persons familiar with the negotiations to which it chiefly relates, with the result of satisfying them that the alleged dispatches of General GOVONE have been foully dealt with. In fact, it is charged that if they have not been wholly "invented" they have been so tampered with and falsified as utterly to misrepresent the conversations and facts which the Italian envoy must have desired to record. It appears, so say the German official journals, that the dispatches given by LA MARMORA do not correspond either in subject or order with the negotiations which actually took place in 1866 between the German and Italian governments, and hence must have been *forged* wholly or in part. As to some of the topics, this statement can be verified by documents already before the public, and the German government, says the official press, has asked the Italian government to cause the necessary comparison to be made with the original documents, if the latter still exist and can be reached.

How much of all this ado is a genuine, sincere attempt to establish historical truth by unmasking falsehood, and how much of it is or may be a mere throwing of dust in the eyes of the German public, we do not pretend to decide. The question of veracity between BISMARCK and LA MARMORA is more interesting personally than the question whether the former was once willing to dismember the Fatherland. It is not likely that the Italian General charged with falsehood and forgery will quietly rest under the imputation. Some days ago, as the cable stated, he proposed to resign his seat as a member of the Chamber of Deputies, when his resignation was declined, and he was given leave of absence for two months. Quid nunes on both sides of the water are expecting to hear of his early arrival in Berlin to call BISMARCK to account. As they are both soldiers as well as statesmen, the duello would be quite in order, and such an affair of honor would certainly create a very exhilirating state of excitement. We do not look for fatal results.

THE New York *Bulletin* publishes a very interesting article on the growth of the world's commerce, in which is embraced an elaborate statement, compiled from official data, showing the foreign commerce of the leading commercial countries in 1855 and 1872, the former period having been selected because it represents the time when industry and trade were beginning to receive an important stimulus from the introduction of steam into manufactures and transportation, and because that period was the opening of a new era in the labor interests of the civilized world. The results arrived at show that, within the last seventeen years, the combined foreign commerce of the leading European and North American nations has grown from $4,241,700,000 to $9,276,000,000, an increase of $5,034,300,000, or 118¼ per cent. for the whole period, or at the average rate of 7 per cent. per annum. The increase in population, within the same period, has been from 271,443,000 to 311,020,000, showing an augmentation of 40,177,000 or 14.8 per cent.; proving that the increase in commerce has been very disproportionately large as compared with the growth of population; inasmuch as, while, in 1855, the commerce amounted to only $15 62 per head of population, in 1872 it had reached $29 76 per head, showing a *per capita* increase of 90 per cent. The chief significance of these striking figures lies in the light they throw upon the increased productiveness of industry within the last fifteen or twenty years. Within the same period nearly a hundred thousand miles of railroad, valued at upwards of ten thousand millions of dollars, have been added to the permanent wealth of the commercial nations. This vast expansion of commerce and this enormous augmentation of national wealth are due almost entirely to the discovery which has made steam do the work of human hands.

THE Election laws recently passed differ but little from those existing under the old Constitution. The Registry law of 1869 has been, in fact, re-enacted, with but slight change, and the act of 1839 remains intact, except where inconsistent with the new Constitution or superseded by subsequent legislation.

There are but two material departures from the old law. The first consists in requiring a two months' previous residence of the voter, instead of ten days, and a payment of taxes within a corresponding period; and the second consists in the numbering of the ballots. With these exceptions, the election of to-morrow will be conducted as elections have been hitherto, and election officers need not be alarmed at the prospect of encountering new duties and requirements.

The following are the qualifications of voters:

Every male citizen twenty-one years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections:

First. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.

Second. He shall have resided in the State one year (or if, having previously been a qualified elector or native-born citizen of the State, he shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months) immediately preceding the election.

Third. He shall have resided in the election district where he shall offer to vote at least two months immediately preceding the election.

Fourth. If twenty-two years of age or upwards, he shall have paid within two years a State or county tax, which shall have been assessed at least two months and paid at least one month before the election.

A GREAT deal is just now being said and written concerning the SANBORN contract, a compact whereby the government was to recover certain moneys due the United States on internal revenue account. The question now being so widely discussed is an old one. The Philadelphia *Inquirer* says that in November, 1872, Secretary BOUTWELL made a contract with a Mr. ELBERT, of that city, for the latter to recover delinquent internal revenue taxes. The amount to be collected was $100,000, on which the agent was to receive fifty per cent. on the same conditions as other contractors. A contract was also made between Secretary RICHARDSON and JOHN CLARK, of Philadelphia, in September, 1873, whereby the latter was to assist in recovering moneys belonging to the United States withheld by certain deceased persons' estates. The sum alleged to be due was $20,000. He was, also, to receive fifty per cent. in full compensation for the gross sum collected. If these compacts were illegal, Secretaries BOUTWELL and RICHARDSON did wrong in entering into them. And the legality of the methods of procedure is the real question at issue in the now famous SANBORN contract.

WHILE the foreign commerce of New York is declining, that of Philadelphia and Boston is steadily increasing. It is the custom to give in this paper, from month to month, the progress of Philadelphia in this regard, and we now observe, from data which have just come to hand, that Boston is making equally rapid strides in the foreign export business—particularly that of grain. For instance, the receipts of wheat last month were 289,000 bushels against 8,500 received in January, 1873; of corn, 314,640 bushels against 245,356, and of flour 139,919 barrels against 73,326 in January of last year. The total receipts of breadstuffs for January amounted to 1,003,000 bushels against 667,000 bushels in January, 1873. The receipts for the present month promise to reach a still larger aggregate, and for the year to fully double those of 1873. Boston boasts that the basin of the St. Lawrence will, sooner or later, make that city "the great distributive port for Great Britain;" but we think Philadelphia will have a word or two to say concerning that matter, before the prediction comes to pass.

A SUPPLEMENT to the new Election law has passed both Houses, and has, doubtless, been approved by the Governor.

It provides that in all townships, wards or boroughs, divided into two or more election districts, there shall be an Assessor, for *Registry* purposes exclusively, elected in each election district, and one Assessor for valuation purposes elected for the entire township, ward or borough. Thus, in wards Twelfth, Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-second and Twenty-seventh, there will be a ward Assessor elected in each, and a Registry Assessor for each precinct. The same will be the case in the several townships which contain more than one precinct.

The bill also provides that returns for ward, borough and township officers, shall be made to the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, as heretofore, and not to the Prothonotary, as directed in the act of January 30th; and it further prescribes that two receipts offered by voters as proof of their right to vote shall be conclusive, if the receipt be genuine.

ILLINOIS is in sore trouble over her railroads. A few days ago we mentioned the fact that the Attorney General of that State had brought suit against the Chicago and Alton Railroad for violations of the law. He recites several cases in which more than fair and reasonable compensation has been charged for passengers as well as for freight, and demands legal damages. On the other hand, the Toledo, Wabash and Western, and Springfield and Illinois Southeastern Railways have joined the Chicago and Alton in its resistance to the collection of tax on their capital stock, while a bill to make the tariff schedules prepared by the Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners *prima facie* evidence of extortion in freight or passenger rates is under consideration by the Legislature, with apparently good prospects of its passage, notwithstanding the efforts of the railroad interests to prevent it. Great interest is manifested as to the result of the Attorney General's suit, it being the first case of the kind ever brought before a judicial tribunal in this country.

THE St. Louis *Republican* says: "Texas was wrested from the iron grasp of the Republican party last fall, and there has been an unbroken reign of peace there ever since." So much for assertion. Now for the proof. A late number of the Galveston *News*, a staunch Democratic paper, contains the following interesting summary of "pacific" events which occurred in that State in a single day: "A negro has been found murdered in the woods; horse thieves on the rampage; horse thieves have robbed Colonel ACCOS; another man knocked down and robbed; cattle thieving operations; District Court suddenly suspended and the judge indefinitely absent; colored man lynched; a school house burned;" and several other items of like character, showing the existence of an almost unbridled reign of lawlessness, violence and bloodshed. It is very evident that the pastoral age has not yet dawned in Texas, Democratic ascendancy and the placid prose idyls of our St. Louis contemporary to the contrary notwithstanding.

THE Democratic Legislature of Georgia would appear to be bent on smirching whatever of the good name of that State remains yet untarnished. It has just passed a bill to tax State railroad companies, although the State had previously made a solemn contract with these corporations, in which it agreed that upon condition the roads were built they should be exempt from taxation for a certain number of years. Upon the faith of this agreement the railroads were constructed, and their bonds and stock have since passed into the hands of third parties. Now, the Legislature arbitrarily and illegally attempts to render this contract void. Of course there is no doubt that the courts will promptly pronounce this precious piece of legislation a nullity, but the fact that such a gross violation of the pledged faith of a great Commonwealth should even have been attempted, is none the less deserving of rebuke.

THE New York correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger* notes some large sales of valuable real estate lately made in that city. The property referred to consisted of fashionably built mansions in the best part of the city, which were owned either by Tammany office-holders compelled to an unwelcome settlement of their accounts, or by men forced by the panic into a retrenchment of their expenses. The prices realized, the correspondent notes, were very largely below the rates current before the panic. No figures are given; but the fact seems to be conceded that, while those not forced to sell, hold on to their property at old rates, those who *are* forced, cannot realize anything like old prices. There are plenty of purchasers, waiting to buy at low rates, for investment, which shows that they have faith in the future; but that does not change the fact as to the present depression.

THERE are people silly enough to believe that the way to prevent corruption and extravagance is to put the Democratic party in power; but they are not, usually, men who pay much regard to facts. As an instance to the contrary, we submit the following table of the cost of the Legislature, in New York, during the three years last past:

Total expenses of Legislature of 1871.....	$492,446 01
Total expenses of Legislature of 1872.....	287,854 77
Total expenses of Legislature of 1873.....	266,519 38

THERE is a wide divergence in these figures; but it is easily explained: The Legislature of 1871 was Democratic, and those of 1872 and 1873 were Republican. And this will be found to be the case everywhere. Extravagance and corruption invariably and inevitably follow in the wake of the Democracy, when it gets in power.

HERETOFORE India has been almost the only country where jute has been raised at all, and it has been a very profitable product. It is much used in the manufacture of ropes, gunny sacks and other articles, and it also has a large commercial value in other respects. Some very successful experiments have, however, recently been made in the cultivation of this important staple, in some of the Southern States, notably North Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana, where, it is affirmed, it can be raised with considerably more ease and greater profit than cotton—the jute itself being claimed to be nearly fifty per cent. superior to the India article. There would seem, upon the whole, to be no reasonable doubt that it can be made a staple and most profitable product in the bottom lands of the Southern States.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A man named Vowell was murdered in cold blood in Tennessee, last week. Glad it was neither U nor I.

Syracuse, New York, claims to have completed the biggest set of wind-mills in the world. It forgets Congress.

The Chicago *Times* designates the women's temperance movement as "the Epigunaloonatic," which means a contagious lunacy among women.

The Missouri Legislature has been in the habit of sending all bills for the advancement of lovely woman to the Committee on Swamp Lands. Just like the brutes, but there is another swamp hereafter.

Down on extravagance—some of the trimming on the elegant opera sacks worn by the ladies.

A timid Chinese dined with the three hundred ladies at Mount Holyoke Seminary a few days ago. Of course, he was timid, for all he could say was, "too much girl."

The defense of a Nova Scotia woman, lately tried in Portland for having two husbands, was the name of the town she came from—Pictou.

Cincinnati undertakers want the privilege of signing certificates of death, instead of hunting up doctors to do it.

The town of Fredonia, in Western New York, has for more than forty years been fully or partially lighted by gas which issues from springs in that place.

Heretofore the term "migrant"—from the Latin *migrare*—has been only applied to birds and beasts which emigrate from one country to another, but it is now proposed to widen its significance and apply it to human beings.

The legality of taxation to support high schools under the general law of Michigan has been sharply tested, the best legal talent of the State being enlisted on each side, with the result in favor of the schools.

The tourist of next century can wander through Italy without fear of fever. Its waste lands, the sources of its sickness, are being rapidly reclaimed.

The three Grand Divisions of the Illinois Supreme Court are to be consolidated into one, with Springfield as the place of meeting.

The gas issuing from the salt wells in the Kanawha valley, West Virginia, has been for years employed as a fuel in the evaporation of the brine.

The latest faithful dog is in Massachusetts. He refuses comfort for the death of the family horse, sleeps in the snow upon the larger quadruped's grave, and goes heroically without his victuals.

A Delaware physician some time ago grafted a piece of his own skin (white) on the body of a negress. It grew, but at the end of three months was as black as the surrounding cuticle.

The indolent field hand of Alabama is stimulated with such announcements as this: "A negro plowman, while plowing on the plantation of Miss Carrie Goree, of Hale county, found an iron chest containing $80,000 in gold and silver bars."

Ancient Carthage required her magistrates to abstain from wine, and her little namesake in Illinois seems to be imbued with the same spirit of morality, inasmuch as she has passed an ordinance prohibiting boys under sixteen years of age from using liquor or tobacco.

The New York legislators are considering a bill regulating the sale of poisons. If its provisions are adopted, ninety-nine one-hundredths of the saloonists will be compelled to label their bottles with a skull and cross-bones.

What's in a name? The people of New York are insisting that the Legislature shall either change the name of Oswego or Owego, or of Otsego or Otego.

It is a remarkable fact that not a single iron craft built in America has been wrecked, though our products in that line have to suffer from the accumulated disasters to British built iron ships.

There is a man in Kentucky who has, for several years past, been drinking coal oil. He takes a teaspoonful at a dose, and he says it has cured him of the consumption. This is authentic.

PERSONAL.

The time-worn anecdote of a person's being so deceived by a theatrical representation as to believe it to be a scene of actual life, was verified at one of the New York theaters, the other night. In the play, which portrayed the life of a drunkard, the chief actor, when in great destitution, exclaims: "Alas! alas! no one in this wide world will give me a even a crust of bread to eat." These words had hardly been pronounced by the actor before the audience saw a tall man arise in the parquette, who, in a voice trembling with emotion, said: "Gentlemen, I am a poor man, but I will give that man a dollar."

Georgetown recently lost an old citizen named Noble Hurdle, aged ninety-four years, who had boasted that he had shaken hands with every President of the United States, from Washington to Grant.

A charming romance happened in the reception-room of a St. Paul hotel, the other day. Miss Nellie Meloy, an employee of the hotel, had inadvertently captivated the affections of Mr. Clafferty, a prominent merchant of Hastings. He was smitten—couldn't get over it, and finally, about a week ago, went to the hotel, took a seat in the reception room, and called for his adored. She came, she saw, she conquered. Mr. Clafferty "proposed," and then and there, was accepted then and there, and after the arrangement of preliminaries the parties were happily married.

THE New York *Journal of Commerce* does not think that Congress need afford any relief from the misconstructions and abuses of the revenue seizure laws, as Secretary Richardson has it in his power to free the merchants at once from these oppressive inquisitions, and adds: The revenue laws are a jumble of incongruities and absurdities. Nobody understands them; no two authorities agree in their construction; no single authority construes them the same way on two successive days. All the revenue legislation being a muddle, and open to any interpretation which the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, or anybody else, chooses to put upon it, we ask Mr. Richardson to order that henceforth the statute relating to the seizure of books and papers shall be read by a light more favorable to honest merchants and less to the sordid advantage of informers, spies, traitors and grasping officials.

MESSRS. SANFORD and Shoemaker, of Adams's Express Company, in their statement to the House Appropriation Committee at Washington, declared that the money they had carried for the United States government during last year, amounting to seven hundred and thirty-eight millions dollars, cost the government for the transportation two hundred and sixty thousand dollars. Of this sum Adams & Co. paid to other express companies fifty-six thousand dollars. Messrs. Sanford and Shoemaker add that if this service had been done for private parties they would have charged over five hundred thousand dollars. The charges of Adams & Co.'s corporation are certainly, in view of all the facts, very reasonable. Contrary to the general rule, they do work cheaper for the government than for private individuals.

THE large collection of volunteers' letters written during the late civil war, made by Frank Moore, the editor of the *Rebellion Record*, probably will go to the British Museum, as arrangements to that end are being consummated between the present owner of the collection and parties in England. This collection is one possessing material historical value, as offering current opinions upon movements and events, and will eventually become priceless as it is unique. It will certainly be a great misfortune if so valuable and interesting a gathering of documentary evidence be permitted to depart from this country.

STATE NEWS.

St. Paul's Lutheran Memorial church in Reading was dedicated yesterday afternoon.

Lancaster jour painters are on a strike.

Reading spent over $60,000 on her streets last year.

A sad and fatal accident occurred at Mertztown, Berks county, on Tuesday evening, the 10th inst. While several men were engaged at work in the limestone quarries of the Emaus Iron Company, at Mertztown, a sand blast which they were musing exploded prematurely, killing Andrew Bortz and Amandus Smith, and wounding three or four other persons.

Mr. John B. Heckman of Gregg township, Center county, raised nine hundred and twenty-three bushels of wheat from thirty-two acres of ground last year, or an average of nearly twenty-nine bushels to the acre.

Gas costs three dollars per thousand feet in Clearfield.

The divorced wife of "Prof." Donaldson, the aeronaut, is in the Reading jail as a vagrant.

The wicked Washington *Star* says: The Pennsylvania newspapers report that Asa Packer, of Mauch Chunk, is worth at least $25,000,000. That's all right. It shows there are compensations in human nature. A man ought to be worth about that much for having to spend his days in a town with such a name.

Lillie, a little daughter of John Lingafelt, Esq., postmaster at Hollidaysburg, fell on the ice a few days ago, and fractured her arm. Moral: Little girls should leave their arms at home when they go skating.

Mr. Joseph Strosnider, of Wayne township, Greene county, died of apoplexy on the 2d inst., aged seventy-nine years. A singular coincidence was, that his daughter, Mrs. Wm. Maple, died the same day, and the processions attending the remains of father and daughter came together on the way to the graveyard.

At Montoursville, the other day, a cow jumped into a sleigh in which a mirror valued at $150 had been packed, and smashed the glass to bits.

A wagon stuck in the deep mud of Waynesburg, and had to be dug out. Nice streets, those.

Henry D. Caseman, in jail at Waynesburg on a charge of forgery, made his escape a few nights ago.

A new Methodist Episcopal church will be dedicated in Mauch Chunk on March 22d.

The Sheriff of Armstrong county will make, on the 28th instant, probably the largest sale ever consummated in the Commonwealth. All the buildings, machinery, lands, ore and coal mines, stores, railway, etc., belonging to the Brady's Bend Iron Company. There are 5,513 acres of land, situated in Armstrong, Butler and Clarion counties.

A little daughter of Mr. Chester F. Morse, of Titusville, aged two years and six months, found a vial of extract of yellow jessamine, on Thursday morning, and swallowed a mouthful of it. Medical aid was promptly called, but the child died within an hour.

The new Catholic paper to be issued as the organ of Bishop Mullen, of the diocese of Erie, will appear on the first of March. It will be called the *Lake Shore Visitor*, and will be in charge of Mr. B. F. McCarty, lately one of the